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2 DeKalb high schools + 2 gay controversies + 2 weeks apart = DeKalb's New Math?

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WALKING CHEAP: AIDS Walk cuts costs, hopes for stronger donations at weekend event. **Page 4**

ARMY PROMOTION?: U.S. Sen. Max Cleland mum on vote for controversial general. **Page 13**

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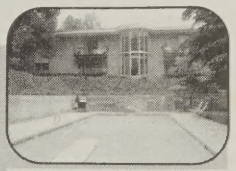

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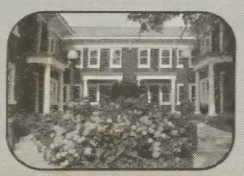

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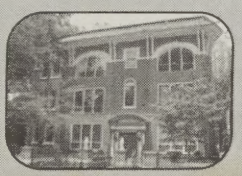

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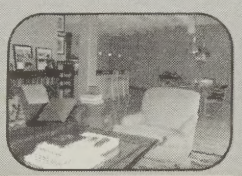

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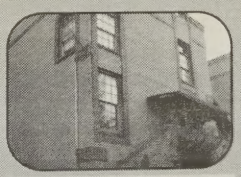

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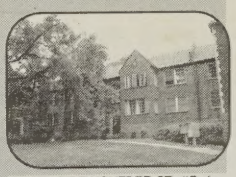

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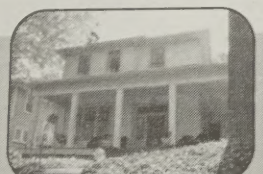

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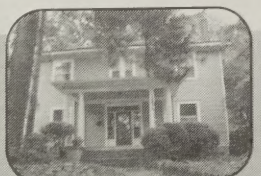

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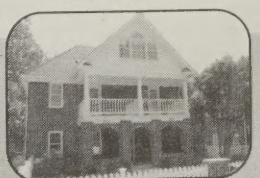

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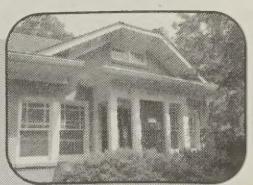

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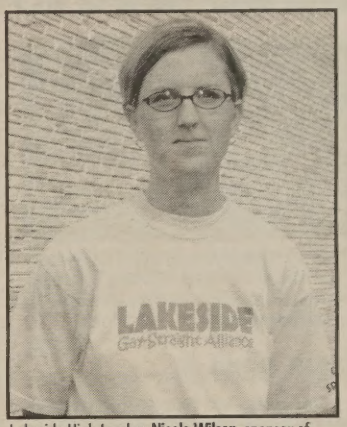
local news

DeKalb schools struggle with gay issues

School system says recent incidents not sign of larger problem

By LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN



Lakeside High teacher **Nicole Wilson**, sponsor of the school's Gay Straight Alliance, said she and students were shocked when the school's principal removed signs they made for National Coming Out Day. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

Call it an unpleasant arithmetic lesson for DeKalb County: Two gay-related controversies at two county high schools in barely two weeks.

While school officials say the incidents are isolated, advocates for gay students say they add up to a problem the public school system needs to solve.

"What we are seeing here proves that there is a way of thinking somewhere inside the school system where people are not getting the diversity education that they need," said Lynn Barfield, program adviser for Enlight Atlanta, a non-profit group that works to stop anti-gay harassment in schools.

"The scary thing is that it seems to be based on the people running these schools and the school system," Barfield said.

southern VOICE COVER STORY

On Oct. 10, the principal at Lakeside High School in northeast DeKalb County removed signs hung by the school's Gay Straight Alliance celebrating National Coming Out Day, only to rehang them later the same day.

Two weeks prior, on Sept. 25, male students at Stone Mountain High School in east DeKalb attended an assembly featuring speaker Danny Buggs, a former football player now on the staff of the DeKalb County school system.

During the assembly, Buggs reportedly said his remarks were not intended for "faggots" and said that "God created Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve."

Buggs, who draws a $72,000 salary as a "liaison" for the DeKalb school system, was placed on paid administrative leave two days later. At press time, no decision was made about his continued employment by the county, according to DeKalb schools spokesperson Mary Stimmel.

The two incidents have activists worried.

"Both of the situations that recently occurred in DeKalb County raise serious constitutional concerns," said Beth Littrell, an attorney with the ACLU of Georgia.

Littrell directs the Georgia ACLU's "Sticks & Stones" project aimed at addressing sexual orientation discrimination in schools. The Lakeside incident raises issues of freedom of speech, while the apparent religious content in the Stone Mountain speech could conflict with constitutional requirements of the separation of church and state, she said.

But system officials don't believe the school district has an overall problem addressing sexual orientation issues, Stimmel said.

"These are two incidents that happened to occur within a short space of time," she said. "I have never heard of any other problems with any kind of harassment of gay students, or had a speaker that we ever had any complaints about."

New DeKalb School Superintendent Johnny Brown came to Atlanta from Birmingham, Ala., where he did not cite direct experience dealing with gay issues.

But in an interview prior to taking the job here, Brown, DeKalb's first African-American school superintendent, said his "record is clear" on diversity.

"When I say all students should be respected, that means 'all,' with no exceptions. I have experienced different kinds of discrimination in my own upbringing, and I find it despicable that any person would put themselves on a preferred status over another, be it for orientation, preference or for any other reason," he said.

Brown was out of town and not available for interviews on the recent gay-related incidents, Stimmel said.

Taking sides at Lakeside

Members of the Gay Straight Alliance at Lakeside — the only such club in the county school system — said they didn't expect controversy last week when they hung up fewer than a dozen hand-made signs celebrating National Coming Out Day.

"We didn't really want to make a big deal of it," said GSA advisor Nicole Wilson. "The only things we had planned were putting up posters announcing the event, and the kids worked on a public service announcement for our school's morning news broadcast."

The posters went up on Wednesday, Oct. 9, two days before the Oct. 11 national observance.

But Wilson, a German and math teacher, said she didn't see any posters when she arrived at school Oct. 10. Instead, Lakeside Principal Randall Lee escorted her to his office when she went to sign in.

"He was very angry. He pointed to the posters leaning against the wall in his office and said they would not be allowed, that they were inappropriate," Wilson said.

Wilson said she and Lee had a "verbal argument" that ended with her vowing that "this is not over" before leaving to teach her class. She called her partner on the way, who contacted several local media outlets.

Within an hour, Lee told her he had reconsidered his decision and the posters were put back up, Wilson said.

"He did apologize fully for his behavior in the morning," she said. "We had a good conversation at that point, although I've had to be really forceful on these issues with this administration."

Lee did not respond to interview requests.

Stimmel said the Lakeside principal told her he allowed the posters to go back up because "I thought about what if this were one of my children, how would I feel about it?"

Lee allowed the student-made public service announcement to run on the school's in-house television broadcast, and some students and teachers wore red or rainbow colors on Oct. 11 as a show of support for National Coming Out Day, Wilson said.

GSA members disagreed on whether the event proved successful.

"If anyone was planning to come out, then they would have been scared or intimidated by their classmates and would have gotten negative responses," said Caroline Smith, a junior.

Kendall Brown, a sophomore GSA member, said the event and surrounding controversy "had its positive and negative aspects."

"It increased awareness about our little club," Brown said. "We are not a bunch of angry gays and lesbians meeting together to bash straight people, as many Lakeside students think. We are merely trying to increase awareness of gay and lesbian rights."

But the Coming Out Day event did spark an angry response.

Four protestors holding signs with Bible verses stood across Briarcliff Road from Lakeside as school let out on Oct. 11, shouting Christian slogans and passing out religious tracts.

"Sin is the disease, this is the cure!" yelled Tony Collins, a Baptist youth director from Villa Rica, waving his Bible.

"We're not against homosexuals," Collins said in an interview. "We're against sin, and we're against homosexuality."

Collins said he and the three other protestors decided to come to the school after hearing about the National Coming Out Day posters on the news the night before.

Please see DEKALB on Page 9

MORE INFO

DeKalb County Public School System
3770 N. Decatur Road
Decatur, GA 30030
678-676-1200
www.dekalbk12.ga.us

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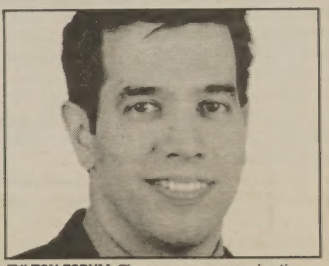


FULTON FORUM: Three gay groups are hosting a forum next week for Fulton County Commission candidates, including **Dean Chronopoulos**, a Democrat hoping to unseat GOP Commission Chair Mike Kenn. Chronopoulos supports domestic partner benefits for county employees; Kenn does not. Page 5

POP STARS: The Trinity Gallery hosts the largest assembly of pop art ever in Atlanta. The walls, filled with the works of 'Pop Icons, Modern Masters,' include big names like Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein and David Hockney. Page 33

Clarification

An Oct. 11 cover story in Southern Voice ("Gay rights not part of top Ga. races"), reported that U.S. Sen. Max Cleland (D-Ga.), declined to be interviewed by the gay press before the outcome of the GOP primary in August. Cleland did, in fact, speak to a Southern Voice reporter for a May 10 story about his campaign.

After the Oct. 11 issue went to press, Cleland agreed to another interview with Southern Voice to discuss gay issues, and that interview will appear in next week's edition.

Corrections

The Oct. 11 edition of Southern Voice incorrectly included a photo of Kathy Cox, a Republican candidate for state school superintendent, to illustrate a story about Secretary of State Cathy Cox, a Democrat.

Also in the Oct. 11 edition, an interview with gay author Dennis Hensley was omitted from the newspaper because of a production error.

Southern Voice regrets the errors.

local news

AIDS Walk fights to reduce costs

Expenses neared 70 percent of money raised last year

By LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN

Some 69 cents of every dollar raised at last year's AIDS Walk Atlanta went to expenses for putting on the event, almost twice the recommended cap set by charity standards developed by the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance.

"We hope total fundraising costs will not exceed 35 percent of the total related contributions," said Bennett Weiner, chief operating officer of the alliance.

But AIDS walk organizers say the poor proceeds from last year's walk were a one-time problem prompted by the event's proximity to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and they pledge beneficiaries of this Sunday's walk will receive a much higher percentage of funds raised.

"I think last year was definitely an anomaly," said Chris Parsons, director of advocacy and community relations for AID Atlanta, the primary beneficiary and organizer of AIDS Walk Atlanta.

"I am not one of those people who blames 9-11 for everything, but we were four weeks out from a very public event," he said.

AID Atlanta pays MZA Events, a for-profit company, an annual fee of $95,000, plus expenses, to put on the event, which also benefits 12 other local AIDS service organizations this year.

"Neither AID Atlanta nor MZA nor the more than 1,000 volunteers who worked on the walk were pleased with last year's result," said Craig Miller, head of MZA Events.

"But we were relieved that we did even that well. It was a brutal time to stage a mass participatory event," he said.

Expenses for last year's AIDS Walk Atlanta topped $760,000 out of only $1.1 million raised, down from $1.4 million the year before.

Based on cost-cutting measures put in place after 2001 and expected community support, this year's walk should post significantly better numbers, returning to gross proceeds "in the $1.4 to $1.5 million range," Miller and Parsons agreed.

"We expect to see a nice bump up on the income side, and at the same time have reduced expenses," Miller said.

MORE INFO

AIDS Walk Atlanta
Oct. 20, sign-in at 12:30 p.m.
Piedmont Park
404-876-WALK
www.aidswalk.net/atlanta/

AID Atlanta
1438 W. Peachtree St.
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-870-7700
www.aidatlanta.org

MZA Events
121 2nd St. 4th Floor
San Francisco CA 94105
415 955 1965
www.mzainc.com

Not Pallotta

Earlier this year, Miller joined 12 other activists and fund-raisers to launch AIDS Community Donor Action, criticizing another for-profit production company, Pallotta TeamWorks, for high fundraising costs.

In 2001, expenses for AIDS Vaccine Rides produced by Pallotta averaged almost 79 percent of the total funds raised, a fact pointed out in ads placed by AIDS Community Donor Action in several gay newspapers, including Southern Voice. Some Pallotta events gave less than 10 percent to beneficiaries.

Since 1994, Pallotta's AIDS-related events averaged 40 percent to expenses, according to financial records for the company, which closed its office and furloughed its staff in August.

But while last year's AIDS Walk Atlanta posted a higher percentage to expenses than the average cited by Pallotta, Miller said MZA Events differs from Pallotta "in just about every possible regard."

MZA's other events had significantly higher returns to beneficiaries, and the two companies operate from a different mindset, Miller said.

"The key difference, and the one from which all others flow, is that we believe that charity events should be owned and controlled by the charities that benefit from them," he said.

After concerns about high costs for the Pallotta-produced California AIDS Ride, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Los Angeles Lesbian & Gay Center had to battle Pallotta in court to win the right to produce their own independent AIDS bike ride.

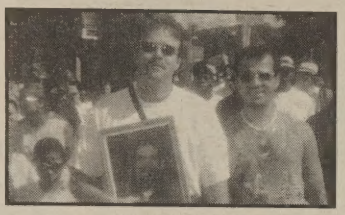
In contrast, the primary beneficiaries of AIDS walks put on by MZA retain ownership of their events, Miller said.

AID Atlanta produced the first AIDS walk in Atlanta independently in 1991, and again in 1992. The agency hired MZA Events to produce the 1993 and 1994 walks, before dumping the company to produce the 1995 walk on its own.

But while expenses for the 1995 walk dropped 9 percent from the walk a year earlier produced by MZA, net returns for the beneficiaries dropped 26 percent, AID Atlanta officials said at the time.

After "abysmal" returns from that walk, Parsons said, AID Atlanta invited MZA Events back to produce the 1996 AIDS Walk. That walk grossed over $1 million for the first time, with a 34.5 percent increase in net, and AID Atlanta has retained MZA Events to produce the walk ever since.

"They know exactly what they are doing, and we are particularly pleased this year with our new contract," Parsons said.



Benefiting agencies received only 31 cents of each dollar donated to the 2001 AIDS Walk, but organizers expect much better returns this year, in part due to reduced expenses.

Impact of Sept. 11

Last year's AIDS Walk Atlanta took place on Oct. 14, a month after the terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C.

With the attacks still so fresh in the public mind, some walkers may have been afraid to attend AIDS Walk Atlanta, while others attended but did not raise as much money, Parsons said.

"They were tapped out after giving to the 9-11 fund, the Red Cross, the firefighters," he said.

Besides dropping income from the walk, the Sept. 11 attacks also increased costs, Parsons said, forcing walk organizers to schedule "24/7 security" for the stage area.

With television outlets running news almost around-the-clock, media sponsor WSB-TV also didn't air most scheduled public service announcements related to the AIDS Walk, which usually are concentrated in the final month leading up to the walk, Miller said.

To compensate for the lack of publicity, Miller said AIDS Walk organizers, with the approval of AID Atlanta, hired telemarketers to reach walkers by phone, a role usually limited to volunteers.

MZA Events also produces AIDS walks in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York City and acts as a consultant for AIDS Walk Wisconsin.

Last year's AIDS Walk Los Angeles was the company's only other 2001 walk to take place after Sept. 11.

But even after scrambling to find a new location three weeks before the event, AIDS Walk Los Angeles still raised $2.5 million, according to the walk's Web site.

While 69 percent of the 2001 total raised by Atlanta's walk went to expenses, costs only ate up 48 percent of gross proceeds from LA's post-Sept. 11 walk, according to Nicole Russo, spokesperson for AIDS Project Los Angeles, the lead beneficiary there.

The next AIDS Walk Los Angeles is set for Oct. 20, the same day as Atlanta's event, and organizers expect better returns, Russo said.

Final accounting hasn't been finished for the three MZA-produced walks that have already taken place this year.

But results from MZA's other 2001 walks show expenses closer to the 35 percent cap

Please see WALK on Page 17

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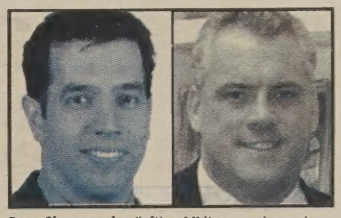
local news

Domestic partner benefits issue in Fulton races

Fulton Chair Mike Kenn to skip upcoming candidates' forum sponsored by gay groups

By JENNIFER J. SMITH



Dean Chronopoulos (left), a Midtown restaurant owner, wants to replace **Mike Kenn** as chair of the Fulton County Commission. Chronopoulos wants to make domestic partner benefits a key campaign issue. Kenn voted against DP legislation last year.

Domestic partner benefits are again surfacing in campaigns for seats on the Fulton County Commission.

And with less than three weeks before the Nov. 5 general election, three gay groups have come together to organize an Oct. 21 forum to showcase candidates in races for Fulton County Commission chair and At-Large, Post 2.

Chair Mike Kenn, a Republican elected to the post in 1998 based in part on his support of domestic partner benefits, will skip the event, a campaign spokesperson said. After his election, Kenn backed away from his support of DP benefits.

Kenn's opponent, Democrat Dean Chronopoulos, is scheduled to attend, along with Robb Pitts, who served 24 years on the Atlanta City Council before a failed mayoral campaign last year, and Republican Karen Handel. Pitts and Handel are running for the At-Large, Post 2 position.

"For anyone interested in domestic partner benefits, the forum is the place to learn about where the candidates stand and learn more about the issue," said Allen Thornell, executive director of Georgia Equality, one of the forum hosts.

Georgia Stonewall Democrats and Log Cabin Republicans are co-hosting the event with Georgia Equality.

"It's the first time we've all done a joint event, and that's huge," said Marc Yeager, president of Georgia LCR.

The three groups hope to invigorate gay voters about the races, which could make or break a future commission vote on domestic partner benefits.

Kenn will not attend the forum, according to Susan Laccetti Meyers, spokesperson for his campaign.

"He will not be going, and he has declined any interview about the campaign," Meyers said. "He's not interested, sorry."

Kenn rode into office in 1998 with promises to push domestic partner benefits and with the endorsements of Georgia Equality and Georgia LCR.

But Kenn drew sharp criticism two years later when he said he had only promised to "consider" domestic partner benefits.

When Commissioner Nancy Boxhill proposed DP legislation last year to the commission Kenn now runs, Kenn declined to sponsor the bill, voted against it and refused to discuss the issue with gay media outlets. The move created an uproar among Kenn's gay backers.

But the three current candidates — Chronopoulos, Pitts and Handel — have promised to back and even spearhead the effort to pass DP legislation.

Chronopoulos, who owns a restaurant in Midtown and was a former aide to U.S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.), said he has "long supported DP benefits and will make them a top priority."

Chronopoulos criticized Kenn for not attending the forum next week.

"It's unfortunate my opponent chooses not to attend a forum geared towards such a significant and important part of his constituents," he said.

The race to lead the Fulton County Commission has attracted the attention of key political leaders in metro Atlanta, including Mayor Shirley Franklin and state Rep. Kathy Ashe (D-Atlanta), who recently endorsed Chronopoulos..

Franklin, in a telephone interview Tuesday, said she supported Chronopoulos, but stopped short of endorsing his campaign.

"I like his fresh vision and approach," she said. "I think he would do a great job."

Franklin cited Kenn's position on DP benefits in her support of his opponent.

"I think I remember there were some campaign promises that weren't kept," Franklin said.

Chronopoulos lost a 1994 campaign for the Public Service Commission and ran unsuccessfully again in 1998, when he campaigned for an at-large seat in Fulton County with Georgia Equality's endorsement.

Pitts and Handel, who are competing for the seat vacated by Karen Webster, who supports DP benefits, both promise to introduce and support domestic partner legislation for the county if elected.

"I supported them at the City Council as a member and as president, and I will not only support them if elected but I will take the lead," Pitts said.

Franklin also said she supports Pitts, a

Please see FULTON on Page 6

MORE INFO

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P.O. Box 52271
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404-892-8285
www.votefordean.com

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local news

Gay issue surfaces in Fulton races

FULTON, continued from Page 5

move coming less than a year after the end of a contentious mayoral campaign. Franklin said she has no qualms about publicly sup, her former opponent.

"I know Robb. I've voted for him," Franklin said. "And I'm going to vote for him again. I think he would do a great job."

Franklin dismissed any speculation of hard feelings between her and Pitts over the mayoral campaign last year. Franklin's campaign alleged Pitts implied during an interview with a black magazine that she is a lesbian. Pitts later denied the charge.

The mayor said this week that Pitts "has the regional vision necessary for the job."

Pitts is "very happy to have her support," he said.

He added that he has had positive conversations about domestic partner legislation with other Fulton Commission members, including Emma Darnell. Last year, Darnell drew criticism from some gays for her portrayal of unmarried couples as "shacking up" when she voted against DP legislation.

"I know she has reservations, but I think we can address them," Pitts said. "It's a no-brainer."

In a showing of "gay solidarity," Pitts said Gary Cox, who served as Franklin's co-campaign manager and is now Atlanta's deputy chief operating officer, would partner with former Pitts mayoral supporter Ken Britt for a fund-raiser this month.

If the two Fulton commission positions are filled with supporters of domestic partner legislation, the seven-member panel would still need one more "yes" vote for the measure to pass if Boxhill continues her support. That vote would have to come from a Commission member who voted "no" last year, Thornell said.

Handel, who is running against Pitts, also supports DP legislation and has been receiving significant support from Georgia Log Cabin Republicans.

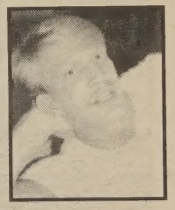
"We think she's great, and she's great on our issues," Yeager said.

Handel dismissed Franklin's support of her opponent, saying only Franklin "has every right to support whomever she wants."

MORE INFO
Fulton County Commission Candidate Forum
Mon., Oct. 21, 7p.m.
The Center
159 Ralph McGill Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 30304
404-523-7500

obituaries

Beau Wilds, 45



Beau Wilds died peacefully at Hospice Atlanta on Sept. 16 of liver failure, a complication of AIDS. He spent his final moments before death alongside his partner of 18 years, Kent Cline.

The body was taken to a crematorium in Austell, Cline said.

Originally from Savannah and a former Miss Gay Savannah, Wilds moved to Atlanta in 1979, where he worked in the hospitality industry. He was also a member of the Royal Court of Atlanta, and his friends knew him as Vicki.

"He did a lot of fund-raising," Cline said, naming AIDS Walk Atlanta as Wilds' favorite fund-raising event of the year.

In a death notice, Cline wished Wilds "a very special Bon Voyage until we meet again."

Services were not announced at press time, but donations are requested in Wilds' name to AID Atlanta.

MORE INFO
AID Atlanta
1438 Peachtree St.
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-870-7700

Richard Adrian Reynolds, 36

Richard Adrian Reynolds died Sept. 16 from AIDS complications, according to a death notice distributed by AIDS Survival Project. He was an "out and proud gay black man who worked tirelessly to educate and support others living with HIV," according to the notice.

Born on Nov. 15, 1965, Reynolds grew up in Canada until the age of 14, when he moved to New York and later worked in the publishing field. In recent years, Reynolds collaborated with the gay writing groups Black Ink and Other Countries, and contributed to Survival News, a publication for AIDS Survival Project.

After his arrival in Atlanta in 1995, Reynolds was involved with several organizations including Brothers Back 2 Back, the Heartsong Retreat, and the Metro Atlanta African American Outreach Initiative.

He also held leadership positions in the Metropolitan Atlanta HIV Health Services Planning Council and the DeKalb Board of Health.

With AIDS Survival Project, Reynolds was a trained peer counselorand volunteer.

Memorial donations are requested to AIDS Survival Project.

MORE INFO
AIDS Survival Project
159 Ralph McGill Blvd., Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-874-7926

regional news

Plans for Tenn. gay camp scuttled after vandalism

Owner received death threats, property littered with dog carcasses

By JENNIFER J. SMITH

GRUETLI-LAAGER, Tenn. — A gay North Carolina businessman cancelled his "lifelong dream" to open a private gay campground this week after finding his property in Grundy County vandalized and littered with slaughtered dogs.

"I just can't believe it," said Allan Winkler, the owner of Blue Fox Retreat. "I never saw this coming, never."

Winkler returned to Gruetli-Laager, about 30 miles northwest of Chattanooga, on Monday to find the destruction.

The custom-built security gate to the 75-acre property, which was scheduled to open next spring, was torn off its hinges and stolen, Winkler said. A one-story office building was pulled down and run over by tractors, a padlock on the water main was cut and the main water line ruptured so that water flowed onto the property for an estimated 24 hours, he said.

A septic tank lid was unearthed and broken, the driveway was damaged, and several dogs were butchered and left scattered around the property, he said. The dogs were not Winkler's and appeared to have been shot, he said.

When police arrived to launch an investigation, the dogs had been removed, he said.

"I've been told by a friend who is too afraid to speak to the police that he has overheard some of the men talking and apparently they were on the property when I arrived," Winkler said. "They had broken up into small groups and were hiding in the woods and that's how they knew when to remove the dogs."

Winkler said he isn't sure how his plans for the private, gay retreat resort became public. He told no one in town about his plans and only members knew the retreat location, he said.

Several Grundy County residents joined as members, according to Winkler.

"Someone has infiltrated our private group, someone who hates gays and is an evil individual," Winkler wrote in a mass e-mail alert last week.

After reporting the crime, Winkler called the Human Rights Campaign, a Washington, D.C.-based gay rights organization, and the ACLU, he said.

Dyana Mason, HRC's Southern Field Coordinator, has been monitoring the investigation.

"We've talked with local investigators, and they appear open to investigating this as a hate crime," she said. "We just want to make sure justice is done."

Grundy County police acknowledged they are handling the case, but lead investigators did not respond to interview requests by press time this week.

Winkler was planning Blue Fox Resort for four years and began land improvements last August, he said.

Despite having no "problems with local residents" as he bought supplies and hired local workers, Winkler began receiving increasingly incendiary e-mails the week before the vandalism, he said.

"I have a daughter who is [a Christian], and I know if I lived near that place, I would do what I could to get it stopped because I wouldn't want her watching a bunch of gay men prancing around nude," wrote "John Tater."

"You really should reconsider your plans," wrote another e-mailer. "Your lifestyle is sinful and an abomination to God."

Many of the e-mails cited the rural location and its surrounding town as reasons to rethink the resort.

"We are a small community, and you will find it difficult to run your resort in this area!" said one e-mail. " "Maybe you should think it over! I'm sure you will run into problems! Problems!"

None of the writers replied to interview requests.

To date, Winkler said he has received 10 death threats. Winkler is attempting to sell the property.

"Right now, I just want to move back to Chicago and forget all this," he said.

While a group of friends and former Blue Fox members attempt to raise funds to offset some of the estimated $35,000 worth of damage and legal costs, Winkler has been getting advice from other gays who have been through similar ordeals, he said.

Brenda Henson, executive director of Camp Sister Spirit in Ovett, Miss., a predominantly lesbian camp for women, said that the violent attacks and threats she received in 1993 have all but abated.

"I would like to [tell him to] round up friends and go back in and rebuild," she said. "But I don't know what his situation is and I know what a personal toll this type of fear and violence takes. I suffer from post traumatic stress because of what we went through."

MORE INFO
Blue Fox Friends
P.O. Box 991
Granite Falls, NC 28630

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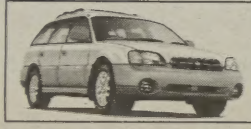

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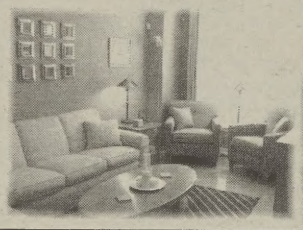

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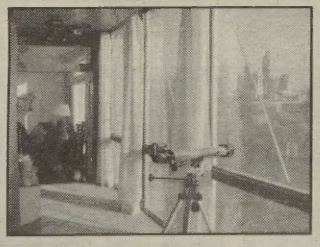

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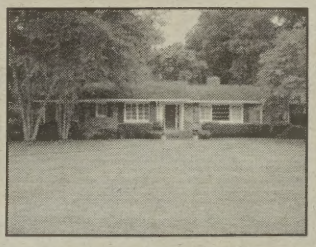

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local news

DeKalb schools lack gay-specific policies

DEKALB, continued from Page 3

"I'm not a basher — if people feel bashed, that's coming from God," Collins said.

School staff watching the protest declined comment, while students offered mixed opinions on the demonstration and the issue that prompted it.

"We don't want faggots here," said one student, who was chastised by his friends before he walked away without giving his name.

But senior Shawna Jones said the protestors were "wasting their time."

"I don't think it's a big deal if [the gay students] want to have their day," she said. "I think it's fine — I don't have a problem with that."

Few gay-specific policies

Like many Atlanta area schools, the DeKalb County public school system offers few specific protections for gay students and staff.

"I think [the recent DeKalb incidents] are symptoms of a larger problem, because if it can happen and be tolerated here, then it probably has happened and been tolerated in other school districts, and it shouldn't be," said Smith, the GSA member.

Similar incidents likely occur in other local school systems, but students or staff may not be brave enough to bring them to light, according to Barfield of Enlight.

"I really think it happens almost as much in every other school system, but the difference here is that the kids and teachers stood up for what they believed in," she said.

Only two local public school systems — the city of Atlanta and the city of Decatur — specifically include "sexual orientation" in their non-discrimination policies. Only a handful of gay straight alliances exist in metro Atlanta high schools.

"It would have to be brought to the [school] board's attention, and they would have to decide to include it," said Stimmel, the DeKalb spokesperson, adding that she plans to present the issue to the board.

DeKalb County does offer two forms of required diversity training to all teachers, but neither specifically address sexual orientation.

One program for teachers and administrators is geared to making sure that girls aren't excluded from science and math, Stimmel said.

The second program uses the "World of Difference" curriculum developed by the Anti-Defamation League. The program "doesn't have a laundry list of differences," Stimmel said, but instead teaches people "to be tolerant of each other's cultural and ethnic differences without being specific at all."

The day after Lakeside Principal Randall Lee removed, then replaced, posters celebrating National Coming Out Day, four Christian protestors picketed across the street from the high school. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

The school system also has a "strong" anti-bullying program and sexual harassment program, though neither of those addresses sexual orientation specifically, she said.

But according to gay teachers and activists with Enlight and the ACLU, those general policies aren't enough to protect either teachers or students.

With "sexual orientation" not included in DeKalb's anti-bias policy, Wilson said she felt "a little concerned" speaking out about the GSA incident.

"All I have done is defend the rights afforded to every student at the school, and if I would be in trouble for that, I wouldn't want to work for them anyway," she said.

Officials at both Enlight and the ACLU's "Sticks & Stones" project said they have contacted DeKalb County to offer help in teaching staff how to deal with sexual orientation issues constructively.

"They really need to sit down and talk about why these incidents happened, then come up with a strategy and action plan, and we would love to be involved with that," said Enlight's Barfield.

DeKalb should start with "baby steps" aimed at countering the message the two incidents sent to students, Barfield said.

"Hearing an adult man say to them 'faggot' ... or having the principal you see every day rip down these posters, sends a mess of intolerance," Barfield said. "Youth take their cues from that — 'If he doesn't respect these people, why should I?'...

But Stimmel said DeKalb administrators have no plans to issue any public statement on the recent controversies or to utilize local groups for help in addressing them.

"These are two incidents and they happened to come close together, and if we have more, than that is a possibility," she said. "At this point, I think we are fully staffed and well able to deal with the issues that come up in our school system."

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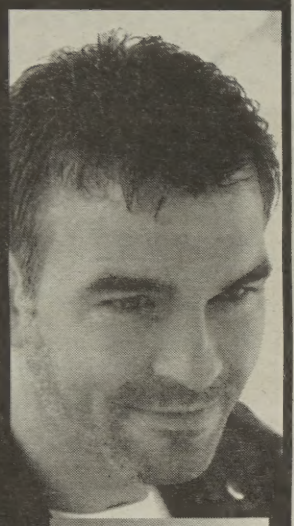

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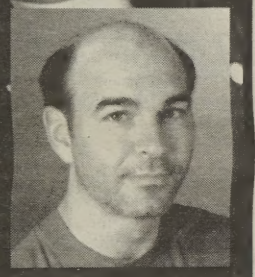

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national news

La. pastor campaigns against New Orleans gay festival

Rev. **Grant E. Storms**, an anti-gay pastor in New Orleans, is lobbying city officials to banish Southern Decadence from the city. The popular gay event draws an estimated 100,000 visitors each Labor Day Weekend.

NEW ORLEANS— A Jefferson Parish pastor is gathering the support of conservative churches and political candidates in his campaign to banish an annual gay festival from New Orleans, according to the Associated Press. Rev. Grant E. Storms has circulated a videotape of men having public sex at the Southern Decadence Festival, arguing that police and city officials ignore lewdness at the gathering. Storms bought an advertisement in the New Orleans Times-Picayune on Oct. 9 urging Mayor Ray Nagin, Police Superintendent Eddie Compass and others to banish the festival "due to the inability of the police and festival organizers to stop such acts of lewdness, nudity and sex from occurring on the streets of the French Quarter." Southern Decadence began about 30 years ago, and now attracts100,000 visitors from across the country, with a handful of French Quarter bars acting as informal sponsors, festival organizers said. The New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corp. began a campaign to promote the festival two years ago. Organizers estimate the party brings $30 million to the city each year.

Gay psychiatrist appeals order to repay Air Force

SAN FRANCISCO— A gay psychiatrist ordered to repay the U.S. Air Force $71,000 for his education argued to an appeals court Oct. 8 that he doesn't owe the government anything, according to the Associated Press. John Hensala, 38, attended medical school at Northwestern University, served his three-year residency at Yale University and received a two-year fellowship at the University of California at San Francisco — all with the understanding that, in exchange, he owed the Air Force four years of active duty service. Shortly before he began his service, he announced he's gay. The Air Force promptly discharged him and demanded its money back, saying Hensala voluntarily failed to complete his service commitment. In June 2001, a federal judge ruled in the Air Force's favor, dismissing the case. Ray Hawkens, a Department of Justice lawyer arguing for the Air Force, told a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that an internal investigation revealed Hensala intentionally revealed his homosexuality solely to avoid military service. But Hensala's lawyer, Clyde Wadsworth, argued that when Hensala came out in 1994, the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was untested. Hensala has contended all along he was willing to serve.

Lesbian couple sues prosecutor in Calif. county

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. — San Mateo County District Attorney Jim Fox faces a lawsuit from a lesbian couple who claims the DA's office illegally revealed one woman's sexual orientation to the father of her child, Bay City News reported. In 1999, two female police officers who had both dated Ramona Gatto got involved in a fight at her home. According to Gatto, Fox then disclosed information about her sexual orientation from a police report on the incident to Timothy Gatto, who had not seen her or her daughter for several years. He then unsuccessfully sued for custody of the child, leaving Gatto and her partner, Arzu Akkus-Gatto, with legal bills. The Gatto family has now offered to settle the lawsuit for $85,000, which they say is not even as much as their legal bills. The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors has rejected the deal.

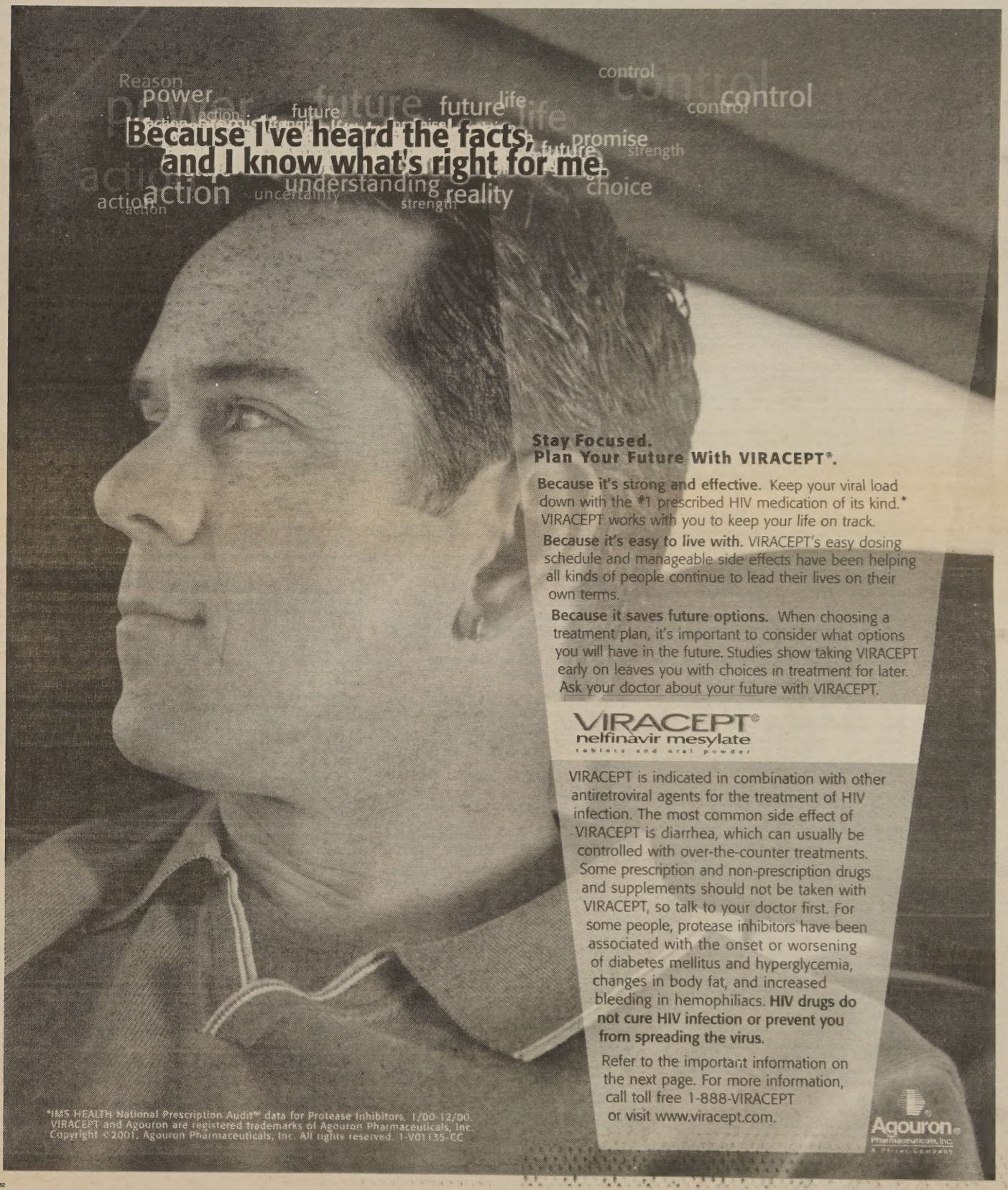
Okla. City settles lawsuit over gay banners

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma City leaders and a gay rights group have approved a settlement over the display of banners on utility and city poles, according to the Associated Press. The Oklahoma City Council on Oct. 8 voted 8-1 to abide by a federal judge's ruling last month that declared part of the city's banner ordinance unconstitutional. Under the agreement, the city will pay "nominal damages" of $3, plus attorneys fees. The city also must give the Cimarron Alliance permission to display banners for its summer parade and delay consideration of changing or repealing the ordinance until January. Cimarron Alliance sued the city after the group's banners promoting gay history month were removed from utility poles.

Gay Hispanics gather for national conference in Fla.

MIAMI — Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Hispanics gathered in Miami Oct. 10-14 for El Encuentro, a conference dedicated to facilitating "the development of cultural, political and community resources through institutes, workshops, caucuses, plenaries and social events." The conference, hosted by LLEGO, a national gay Hispanic group, drew about 1,000 participants from the U.S., Latin America and Puerto Rico, according to the Miami Herald. "This is the largest gathering of its kind," said Martín Ornelas-Quintero, LLEGO executive director. This is the first time El Encuentro has been held in South Florida, and earlier this year, LLEGO threatened to move the event if voters in Miami-Dade approved a ballot measure overturning gay rights protections. The measure failed Sept. 10.

From staff and wire reports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Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT".

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)

Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)

Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others

Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)

Halcion® (triazolam)

Versed® (midazolam)

Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®
This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

Phenobarbital

Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)

Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)

Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)

Zerit (stavudine, d4T)

Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:
Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: **A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication** should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do **not** mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do **not** heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do **not** add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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national news

Senate panel to vote on controversial general

Cleland reportedly undecided on upcoming vote

By LOU CHIBBARO JR.

WASHINGTON — Gay activists criticized the Senate Armed Services Committee for refusing to allow the mother of an Army private murdered in a 1999 gay bashing incident to testify against the promotion of a general who reportedly refused to curtail anti-gay harassment on the base where the soldier was killed.

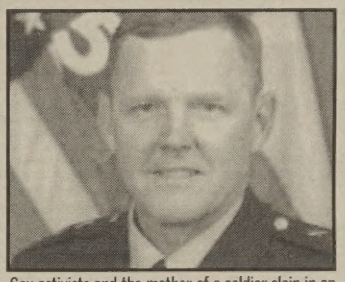
The Democrat-controlled committee voted last week to hold a confirmation hearing Wednesday for Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark's promotion to lieutenant general. The committee also refused to provide opponents of Clark's promotion an opportunity to testify at the hearing.

President Bush nominated Clark for the promotion earlier this year. The Senate approves all such promotions.

Clark was commander of the Army base at Fort Campbell, Ky. when a fellow soldier bludgeoned Pvt. First Class Barry Winchell, 21, to death with a baseball bat as he slept.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a group that assists gays in the military, charged that Clark failed to take steps to curtail "a command environment in which anti-gay sentiment flourished unabated" at Fort Campbell.

"Major General Clark made no public statements to his soldiers about the murder, no public indication of his distaste for what had happened, no public directive discouraging such behavior amongst his soldiers," said an SLDN statement sent to members of the Armed Service Committee.



Gay activists and the mother of a soldier slain in an anti-gay beating are opposing the possible promotion of Maj. Gen. **Robert T. Clark**, who was commanding officer at the Kentucky base where the soldier was killed nearly three years ago.

The Fort Campbell public affairs office, under Clark's direction, stunned gay activists shortly after Winchell's murder when it issued a statement saying the death was the result of a "physical altercation in a post barracks." The public affairs office knew Winchell was attacked in his sleep when it issued the statement, according to SLDN.

Pvt. Calvin Glover, the soldier charged in the murder, was later convicted and sentenced to life in prison. Pvt. Justin Fisher, a second solider who witnesses said "aided and abetted" the attack by encouraging the assault, plead guilty to a lesser offense. Clark personally approved the decision to allow Fisher's lower charge.

An investigation by the U.S. Army Inspector General's office exonerated Clark from any wrong-doing in connection with the Winchell murder, although it found that the base did not provide sufficient training for soldiers and officers on the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy for gays in the military.

Among those seeking to testify against Clark's promotion is Patricia Kutteles, Winchell's mother. In an Oct. 9 letter to Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.), chair of the Armed Services panel, Kuttleles and her husband called Clark "unfit for promotion."

"We believe the senators should hear from us prior to making a decision to promote Major General Clark to the second highest rank in the Army," the letter said. "We believe MG Clark, as then commanding general of Fort Campbell, was negligent in his leadership duties by tolerating anti-gay harassment on the base prior to Barry's murder, and for doing little in the wake of the murder to stop this type of harassment."

The Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force and People for the American Way also oppose Clark's promotion.

Levin's press secretary, Tara Andringa, said late Wednesday that because the hearing was held in executive session, Levin could not comment on what was said or provide details about the proceeding. Andringa said Levin told her "no action" was taken on Clark's promotion at the hearing but he did not say if or when the committee would vote on the promotion.

Spokespeople for members of the Armed Services Committee did not return calls seeking comment by press time.

Democrats hold a 13-12 majority on the committee, and 10 of the 13 Democrats hold a 100 percent rating on gay issues from HRC, the nation's largest gay political group.

Other members of the committee who reportedly voted to bar witnesses opposing Clark's promotion from testifying at the Oct. 16 hearing include Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) and Max Cleland (D-Ga.), who is currently running for re-election.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported on Wednesday, the day the hearing was scheduled to take place, that Cleland — a Vietnam War veteran who lost three limbs in combat — said he was undecided on whether to vote for or against Clark's promotion.

"It's surprising that a Democrat controlled committee would take this action," said Mark Mead, a former Atlanta gay activist serving now as spokesperson for Log Cabin Republicans, a national gay GOP group.

"We were told that with Democrats in charge, this kind of thing would not happen," Mead said.

Log Cabin Republicans opposes Clark's promotion and urged Republican senators to vote against his confirmation for the higher post, Mead said.

Clark could not be reached for comment, but when he left Fort Campbell in 2000 to assume a post in San Antonio, Tex., he said that criticism of his tenure at Fort Campbell was unfair.

Gay minister plans new protest over Falwell

Soulforce says pastor 'must repent for his words' against gays, Muslims

By KATHI WOLFE

LYNCHBURG, Va. — Three years ago, an historic meeting took place in Lynchburg, between Rev. Jerry Falwell, well known for his vocal opposition to homosexuality, and Soulforce, an inter-faith network working to end spiritual violence against gay people. At the time, Falwell promised to tone down his rhetoric.

But since that meeting, Soulforce leaders say, Falwell has not only has reneged on his promise, but also made anti-Muslim remarks in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. So later this month, Oct. 25-27, hundreds of Soulforce members will return to Lynchburg to confront Falwell again. "Words have power to hurt and kill, and Jerry Falwell must repent for his words," said Soulforce co-founder Rev. Mel White. "Falwell is notorious for his anti-gay statements. ... We have been saying for years that fundamentalist anti-gay rhetoric leads to suffering and death for GLBT people."

Now, White added, "we can say, it also leads to death for Muslims."

On the Oct. 5 broadcast of the CBS TV show "60 Minutes," Falwell called the founder of Islam "a violent man, a man of war."

"I think Muhammad was a terrorist," he said.

On Oct. 7, Soulforce and Al-Fatiha, a group for gay Muslims, issued a joint statement denouncing Falwell's remarks. "This is a nation committed to diversity," White said in the statement. "Our goal.... must be to create a 'beloved community' where we can live side by side as good neighbors."

Soulforce, founded in 1999 by White and his partner Gary Nixon, uses the non-violent principles of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. to make churches welcoming and inclusive to gay people.

Last month, White and Nixon moved into a house in Lynchburg across the street from Falwell's Thomas Road Baptist Church.

The purpose of Soulforce's return to Lynchburg later this month will be two-fold, Rutt said: to make Lynchburg more "gay-friendly" and to protest Falwell's homophobic and anti-Muslim beliefs.

On Oct. 25, Soulforce members will receive training in non-violence. That evening, there will be a "Human Rights" rally for Soulforce members.

"Out and About" — the first Gay Pride festival to be held in Lynchburg — will take place on Oct. 26. Vigils at Thomas Road Baptist Church will begin that evening, and Soulforce plans to hold a "community meal" Oct. 27, at Riverside Park in Lynchburg.

The group has asked Falwell to join them and have members of his congregation bring covered dishes to the meal. "There's something symbolic about our sitting and discussing our differences over a meal," White said. "If Falwell doesn't join us at our picnic, we will symbolically blockade his church."

Soulforce won't literally keep Falwell and his followers from entering Thomas Road Baptist Church, White said. But the group's peaceful vigil around the church will send the message that Falwell and his church is a "toxic religious zone" that is "dangerous to the physical, psychological and spiritual health of everyone," he said.

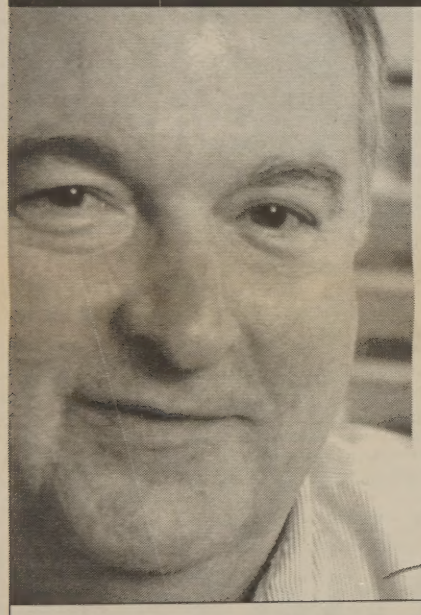
Muslim-Americans will join the protests, White said. Anti-gay religious leaders — including Rev. Fred Phelps, the Kansas pastor known for his "God Hates Fags" Web site and picketing Matthew Shepard's funeral — are expected to stage counter-protests.

MORE INFO

Rev. Mel White
636 Thomas Road
Lynchburg, VA 24502
804-266-5370
Revmel@soulforce.org
www.soulforce.org

"One of the great challenges of our times is protecting human and civil rights. I want Nick representing me in that battle."

Tony Conway



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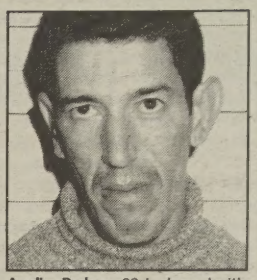
international news

Doctors say wounds nearly killed gay Paris mayor

PARIS — The gay mayor of Paris suffered life-threatening wounds when he was stabbed over the weekend at a public party at City Hall, his doctors told the Associated Press last week. Bertrand Delanoe was recovering well but will remain under intensive care for another 48 hours, surgeon Jean-Paul Chigot said. Delanoe was expected to stay hospitalized for another week and was not expected to return to City Hall for several weeks. Doctors feared for Delanoe's life Oct. 6 when he was rushed to the hospital with abdominal wounds. "He was in reality in mortal risk," surgeon Fabrice Menegaux said. Delanoe, 52, suffered injuries to the stomach, intestines and vena cava, a major vein that brings blood from the lower body to the heart. Despite the serious injuries, doctors said he was in satisfactory condition. The suspect in the stabbing, Azedine Berkane, 39, told investigators that he committed the crime out of dislike for gays and politicians.



Azedine Berkane, 39, is charged with stabbing gay Paris Mayor Bertrand Delanoe earlier this month. Berkane allegedly told police he launched the attack over his dislike for gays. (Photo by AP)

High-profile lesbian couple in Australia profiled in new biography

MELBOURNE, Australia — A biography of Dr. Kerryn Phelps and her partner, Jackie Stricker, was set to be released this week, providing a deep look into the lives of the country's most high-profile lesbian couple, the Age of Melbourne reported. "All our family and friends are well prepared," said Phelps, president of the Australian Medical Association, talking about the likely reaction of her ex-husband, her estranged family, former friends and employers to the publication of "Kerryn & Jackie," written by Susan Mitchell. The book outlines Phelps' irreparable rift with her family, the pair's public coming out and more. Phelps said the book was painful to put together, because she was required to revisit a "very personal tragedy." The book could prove hurtful to many people, even though some of them have had their names changed on the advice of the publishers' lawyers. But the two women make no apologies. "We had to really think and talk very extensively about what we could write about. In the end, though, we had to talk about everything. It had to be done," Phelps said.

Canadian man accused of harassing gay couple

POINTE CLAIRE, Canada — Hitting golf balls at his gay neighbors' heads and trying to run one down with his car are the most serious charges against Bob Walker, who went on trial Oct. 7 in a case that has kindled nationwide interest, the Montreal Gazette reported. The prosecution contends that Walker harassed neighbors Roger Thibault and Theo Wouters because they are gay. The couple fought back, even holding a march through their neighborhood last year that drew thousands of people. But Walker said he is the one who is being harassed, because of the numerous police complaints filed by his neighbors. "His life is a wreck, given what has happened," said Salvatore Mascia, Walker's attorney. The situation has been blown out of proportion, Mascia added. "I'm upset that this case actually went to court."

Gay police commander in U.K. reassigned after drug allegations

LONDON — The Metropolitan police have appointed Brian Paddick, the gay suspended commander of Lambeth, to another post, signaling that he will not be able to return to the south London borough even if he is cleared of allegations that he smoked cannabis, the Guardian reported. The decision is expected to infuriate Paddick's supporters because it pre-empts the findings of an independent investigation, which is expected to announce that he will not face criminal charges relating to claims in a "kiss-and-tell" story published in a tabloid. Paddick has denied allegations by his former partner of five years, James Renolleau, who said the officer smoked cannabis and allowed it to be stored at the flat they shared. London Mayor Ken Livingstone has said that Paddick was the victim of a "profoundly intrusive homophobic press campaign."

Global cost of fighting AIDS expected to rise above $10 billion

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations warned last week that the global cost of treating HIV and AIDS cases and containing the epidemic could reach $10.5 billion a year by 2005, according to the Associated Press. The estimate was drawn up by U.N. officials for a meeting in Geneva of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Total global spending by various U.N. programs on AIDS may hit $3 billion this year. The U.N. AIDS agency has called for a doubling of aid to meet this year's expenditure. Experts estimate that rich countries must donate at least $10 billion a year to tackle HIV, which is decimating regions of Africa and gaining momentum in Asia. U.N. projections also say by 2007, the money required to fight HIV/AIDS could reach $15 billion a year. An estimated 45 percent of worldwide money going to HIV programs comes from the U.S.

From staff and wire reports

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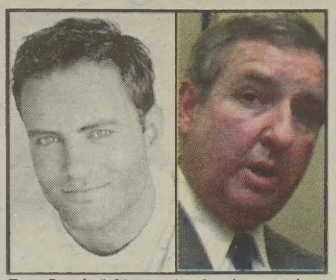
Attack of gay man in L.A. turns into political battle



Treve Broudy (left), a gay Los Angeles man who was attacked last month, has criticized the decision of District Attorney Steve Cooley not to file hate crime charges in the case. (Broudy photo courtesy Rage Models; Cooley photo by AP)

LOS ANGELES — The West Hollywood City Council and Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn, as well as the gay victim of a beating in West Hollywood last month, urged the county's top prosecutor to file hate crime charges against three men arrested in the incident, according to the Associated Press. District Attorney Steve Cooley's decision not to prosecute the case as a hate crime has triggered demonstrations by gay residents. Larry Walker, 29, Vincent Dotson, 18, and Torwin Sessions, 19, pleaded innocent to assault with a deadly weapon and attempted robbery. The three were charged in the Labor Day beating of Treve Broudy, 34, who had just embraced a friend outside his home. Broudy told the Associated Press that he is angry over the decision not to file hate charges and that the only motivation he can see for the attack is his sexual orientation. Hahn called on Cooley to reconsider the decision, saying that not filing hate charges "sends the wrong message," according to the Los Angeles Times. Cooley fired back that Hahn was pandering to a "vigilante mentality," the paper reported. On Oct. 8, the West Hollywood City Council approved a resolution calling for a federal investigation into the beating. Sessions has said that he and his fellow defendants did not know that Broudy was gay when the attack occurred.

Ariz. health officials probe apparent suicide of trans activist

TUCSON, Ariz. — The Arizona State Health Department is investigating a mental health clinic in the wake of an apparent suicide Sept. 27 by nationally known transgendered activist Alexander Goodrum, 41, according to the Tucson Citizen. Goodrum may have been dead for hours before staffers found his body hanging from a bathroom doorknob, authorities said. Goodrum, a female-to-male transgendered bisexual, checked himself into the La Frontera Center last month with complaints of depression. La Frontera officials refused comment on Goodrum's death. Goodrum was a founder of TGNet, a grassroots transgender advocacy group based in Tucson. Walter P. Goodrum, Jr. said his brother's depression was not related to his gender. La Frontera "was supposed to be in the safest place he could have been, and this still happened," Goodrum's brother said.

Defense seeks victim's sexual history in Iowa HIV transmission case

IOWA CITY, Iowa — A man charged with failing to disclose his HIV-positive status before having sex with another man in 2000 wants the alleged victim's sexual history introduced as evidence in his Oct. 21 trial, according to the Associated Press. Aaron Dahlberg, 24, is charged with criminal transmission of HIV. His attorney, Leon Spies, filed a motion Oct. 8 stating that the accuser's sexual history is critical to Dahlberg's constitutional right to confront and cross-examine his accuser. Spies said the evidence also is relevant to whether Dahlberg was the source of any HIV transmission. Assistant County Attorney Anne Lahey said she will fight the motion and declined comment on whether the unidentified man is HIV positive. Dahlberg pleaded innocent and is free on bond. He faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted.

Fugitive in N.Y. gay man's slaying found dead in Mexico

TIJUANA, Mexico — A fugitive sought for his role in the 1990 killing of a gay man in Queens was found shot to death Oct. 2 in Mexico, Queens district attorney Richard Brown told the New York Times. Esat Bici, 30, was wanted for his role in the 1990 murder of Julio Rivera, a bartender who was beaten and stabbed in a schoolyard because he was gay. Bici was killed in what appeared to be a drug-related shooting, Brown said. He and another man were convicted of murder in 1991, but those decisions were overturned on appeal. Bici disappeared while awaiting retrial in 1996. The two men and a third, Daniel Doyle, planned the gay bashing in a known gay cruising spot, according to Doyle's testimony. Doyle plead guilty to manslaughter and is now serving up to 25 years in state prison.

Vandals strike 'Coming Out Day' observances on Calif., Ill. campuses

POMONA, Calif. — Gay pride symbols painted by student groups to commemorate the Oct. 11 National Coming Out Day on the campuses of California Polytechnic State University and Southern Illinois University were vandalized, according to campus newspapers. Members of the Cal-Poly Pomona Pride Center discovered black paint smeared across a rainbow-colored sign at Cal-Poly on Oct. 11, according to the Poly Post. "I was mad when I saw it," said Ramon Pastores, student assistant program coordinator for the Pride Center. "Most of our students were upset." Police have not classified the incident as a crime and the investigation was put on hold pending further leads, campus police said. Signature rocks on the Illinois State campus were similarly painted in rainbow colors recognizing the event and vandals there painted the word "FAG" across the hill of rocks, according to the Daily Egyptian.

From staff and wire reports

local news

AIDS Walk Atlanta cited worst returns last year

WALK, continued from Page 4

recommended by the Wise Giving Alliance, and more in line with the 40 percent ceiling that Miller said his company strives for.

"We are really unhappy with fund-raising events that produce less than 60 percent returns to the benefiting organizations," he said.

Last year's AIDS Walk New York raised $4.2 million, with expenses "between 25 and 30 percent," said Marty Algaze, spokesperson for Gay Men's Health Crisis, the lead beneficiary there. This year's walk, held May 19, raised $4.5 million, with final expenses not yet computed.

The 2001 AIDS Walk San Francisco raised $3.55 million, with 37 percent going to expenses, according to Redge McNorton, spokesperson for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. This year's AIDS Walk San Francisco, held July 21, raised about $3.5 million.

SFAF didn't hesitate to cut ties with Pallotta TeamWorks over the California AIDS Ride. In contrast, the group praised MZA Events.

"We have a 17-year relationship with MZA, and we are very pleased with how they produce our AIDS walk," McNorton said.

Optimism for 2002 walk

In 2000, the last AIDS Walk Atlanta before Sept. 11 raised $1.4 million, with 42 percent going to expenses.

Both Miller and Parsons said they expect the 2002 walk to beat those figures.

AID Atlanta's renegotiated contract with MZA includes a $650,000 cap on expenses, which includes the firm's $95,000 fee, and much more involvement in oversight for AID Atlanta leaders, Parsons said.

Cost-cutting measures have included locating a donated apartment to house the MZA event manager who resides in Atlanta for the six months preceding the walk, and housing the AIDS Walk office in AID Atlanta's offices, instead of paying rent for a separate location, Parsons said.

With these measures in place, Miller said MZA expects to bring this weekend's event in under budget.

Income should also be higher for this year's walk, based on early indicators, Parsons said.

A week out from the event, corporate sponsorships total $258,000, up from $178,000 at the same time last year, and online donations have already hit $100,000, up from $37,000, he said.

The lower returns from last year's walk hurt not only AID Atlanta, but also the other beneficiaries. Although they had expected to receive a cut of the general proceeds, instead each group got only what its own walkers raised.

"We are always disappointed about how the proceeds are distributed to agencies other than AID Atlanta," said Sandra McDonald, founder of Outreach, Inc., which received $8,152 that its supporters raised for last year's walk.

Without the additional cut of funds from the walk proceeds, AIDS Survival Project faced the odd situation of having its team raise more money in 2001 than 2000, yet still receive less money overall.

In 2001, ASP walkers raised $10,930 — the only funds the group got from the walk. In 2000, ASP walkers raised only $7,500, but the group's additional $5,000 share out of the general funds brought AIDS Survival Project's total income from the AIDS walk to $12,500, according to Rob Nixon, development assistant for the group.

"We're still pleased with the AIDS Walk, and hopefully this year will be better for us in terms of sharing in the funds," he said.

For 2002, AID Atlanta instituted a new policy for how funds will be distributed to the other benefiting groups, offering a fixed-amount "incentive" instead of a share of general funds, Parsons said.

This year, each group will get what its walkers raise. After that, each group that raises $7,500 or more will get an additional bonus of $5,000, as long as the walk brings in a total of $1.35 million, Parsons said.

Other AIDS Walk beneficiaries include AID Gwinnett, AIDS Legal Project of Atlanta, AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta, AIDS Treatment Initiatives, Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network, Childkind, Jerusalem House, Our Common Welfare, Positive Impact and Project Open Hand.

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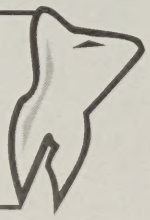

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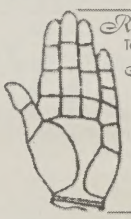

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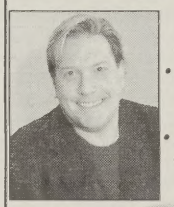

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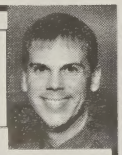

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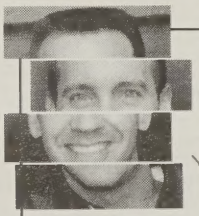

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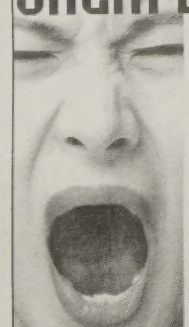

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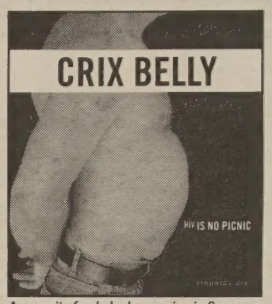
medical report

New San Francisco ad campaign shows HIV 'is no picnic'

SAN FRANCISCO — At a time when gay and bisexual men are increasingly engaging in risky sexual behavior, a new ad campaign in San Francisco shows HIV-positive men suffering from the debilitating side effects of AIDS and the drugs used to treat it, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. The $37,500, city-funded ad campaign, which started last week on bus shelters and public rest rooms, aims to get men talking about the consequences of HIV infection, said Stop AIDS Project spokesperson Shana Krochmal. One ad, titled "Crix Belly," shows a man with a distended abdomen, next to the slogan "HIV is no Picnic." "Crix" is short for Crixivan, the protease inhibitor that has as one of its side effects the redistribution of fat from the face and arms to the belly and back. Another depicts a man sitting on a toilet with diarrhea, another with facial wasting and a fourth with night sweats.



A new city-funded ad campaign in San Francisco shows HIV-positive men suffering from the debilitating side effects of AIDS in an effort to combat a rise in gay men having unprotected sex, health officials said.

Gay teens more likely to have eating disorders, body concerns

NEW YORK — Teen boys who are gay are more likely than their heterosexual peers to diet and exhibit certain symptoms of eating disorders, while lesbian teens appear to be somewhat protected from the unhealthy body concerns that often plague heterosexual girls, according to Reuters Health. In addition, Dr. Sydney Bryn Austin of Children's Hospital and Harvard University in Boston and her colleagues found that teen girls and boys who identify as heterosexual, but are sometimes attracted to the same sex, are more likely than heterosexuals without same-sex attractions to diet and be unhappy with their bodies. "We're really at the beginning of figuring out who these adolescents are, and why are they at increased risk of eating disorders, and other unhealthy behaviors," Austin said.

Family doctors group considers support for gay adoptions

WASHINGTON — The American Academy of Family Physicians was expected to consider two resolutions on same-sex adoptions and domestic partner benefits during its meeting this week in San Diego, according to the Washington Times. The 93,500-member group, which is based in Leawood, Kan., has not taken a position on either issue to date. There is a third resolution urging acceptance of a "gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered" delegate on the AAFP's constituency committee. A "yes" vote on the resolutions would put the AAFP in the same camp as other organizations that have endorsed gay adoptions, including the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Minnesota researchers may have unlocked a key HIV mystery

MINNEAPOLIS — University of Minnesota researchers may have unlocked another key mystery surrounding HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, the Associated Press reported. The discovery appears to explain why a quarter of the patients infected with the AIDS virus respond poorly to the powerful drug cocktails while others show dramatic improvements. Doctors measure the effectiveness of the drug therapies by the amount of virus found in the blood and by the number of CD4-T cells found in the lymph nodes. The goal is to eliminate the virus from the blood and boost the CD4-T cell count to strengthen the immune system. In people infected with HIV, the virus invades the lymph nodes and relentlessly attacks the CD4-T cells. Dr. Timothy Schacker, an associate professor of medicine and author of the study, and his colleagues removed up to four lymph nodes from each of 11 patients over a six-month period and examined them for damage. They found that in some patients, inflammatory cells sent in by the body to help fight HIV inadvertently caused damage to the lymph tissue, and the ensuing scar tissue prevented CD4-T cells from replicating. "It's like somebody comes in and trashes the house, moves all the furniture and changes everything so you can't function in this space," Schacker said. The study was featured in the Oct. 16 issue of the Journal of Clinical Investigation.

AIDS expert tapped to lead CDC's HIV prevention center

ATLANTA — The new director of the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has named two new managers, including a longtime AIDS expert, to top posts, according to the Associated Press. Dr. Julie Gerberding, who became director in July, said last week Dr. Harold Jaffe will direct the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD & TB Prevention. Jaffe, acting director of the CDC for 13 months, joined the agency in 1974 and collaborated on its earliest research into AIDS in 1981. Gerberding also appointed Dr. Ed Thompson, Mississippi's state health officer, to deputy director for public health programs and services. It is a new position to serve as a liaison between the CDC and state and local health departments.

From staff and wire reports

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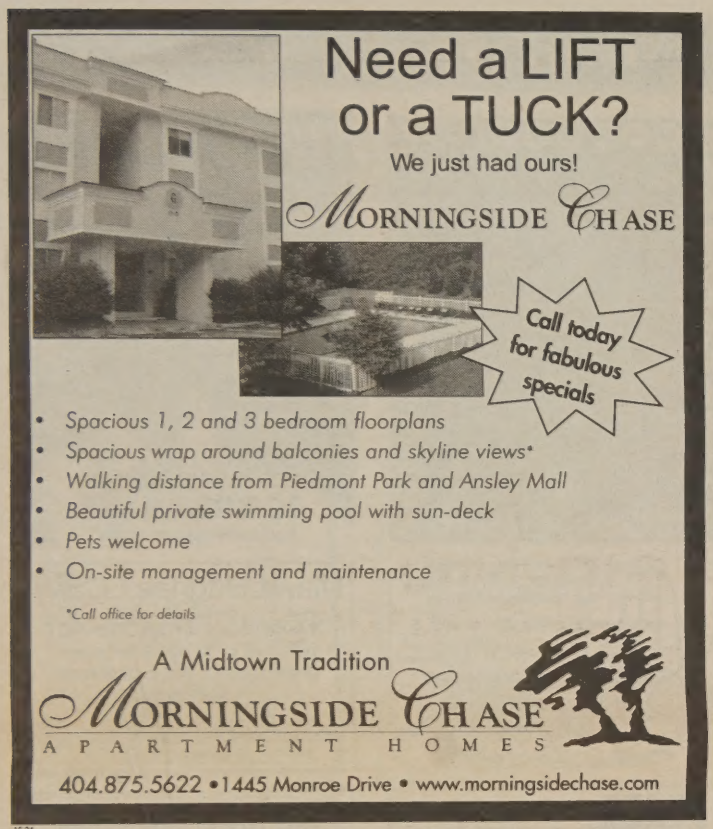
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NORTH POINT CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays, 10:30 am. Homewood Suites, Davis Dr. 770-569-8601

NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION. Sundays, 10:30 am. 770-955-1408

OAKHURST BAPTIST CHURCH. "Every member a minister." Sundays, 11 am. 222 East Lake Drive, Decatur. 404-378-3225. www.oakhurstbaptist.org

ORMEWOOD PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Sundays, 9 am. Fellowship Hall, 11 am. Sanctuary. Awesome Celebration, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7 pm. Fellowship Hall. 1071 Delaware Ave. SE., Atlanta. www.ormewoodparkpress.org. 404-627-2216

PILGRIMAGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST. Sundays, worship 10 am. Wednesdays, casual, alternative worship 7 pm. 3755 Sandy Plains Rd. 770-971-0007

RAMESHORI BUDDHIST CENTER. Classes offered throughout the Atlanta area. www.rameshori.com. 404-321-7737

REDEFINED FAITH WORSHIP CENTER. Third Sundays, 11 am. GSU Student University Center, corner Gilmer and Courtland Sts. 743 Virginia Ave. 404-872-2133

SNELLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sundays, New Freedom Fellowship for Recovering Addicts, 11 am. 770-929-8505 or 770-484-6346

SPIRITUALITY & WELLNESS DISCUSSION. Last Thursday of the month, 7 pm. Led by Chaplain Lauralyn Bellamy. Phoenix & Dragon Bookstore, 5531 Roswell Rd. 404-255-5207

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Sundays, 8 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm. 1790 LaVista Rd. 404-634-3336

ST LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. {May 26 — August 11 Sundays, 8 am, 10 am & 6 pm.} Sundays 8 am, 9 am, 11:15 am, & 6 pm. 435 Peachtree St. NE 404-873-7600

ST LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH. 10 am Sunday service. 3264 Northside Pkwy, NW. 404-237-4413

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sundays, worship 8:45 am and 11:15 am. Wednesday dinner, 6:00 pm, program 6:45 pm. Corner of Peachtree and 5th. 404-873-2636

ST. MICHAEL THE DEFENDER OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH. 159 Ralph McGill Blvd. Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. 404-254-9931

ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Sundays, 8:30 am, 10:30 am Holy Eucharist. 4755 North Peachtree Road. 770-455-6523, www.stpat.net.

STS. SERGIUS AND BACCHUS CHURCH. First Sunday, 3pm. Meeting at Decatur First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 601 W. Ponce de Leon Ave., Decatur. 404-508-9128

TRINITY CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE. Sundays, 11 am. 430 W. Trinity Place. 404-296-6064

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. Sundays, 10:45 am. 404-659-6236

TRUTH CENTER MCC. Sundays, 3 pm. Airport Holiday Inn, I-85 at Virginia Ave. exit. 770-951-1380

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST-CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL. Sunday school 10 am; Sunday services 9 & 11 am. 2676 Clairmont Rd. NE Atlanta 30329-2741. 404-633-4505

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ATLANTA. Sundays, 9:30 and 11:15 am. 1911 Cliff Valley Way (off I-85 N Access Road). 404-634-5134. www.uuca.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF GWINNETT COUNTY. Sundays, 11 am. 770-717-7913

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF MARIETTA. Sundays, All-inclusive service, 10:30 am. 770-528-9542

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF NORTH METRO ATLANTA. Sundays, 9:45, 11:30 am. Summer service 10:30 am only June thru mid August. 11420 Crabapple Rd. 770-992-3949

UNITY FELLOWSHIP OF CHRIST CHURCH. Sundays, 3 pm. 404-752-5030

VIRGINIA-HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH. Sundays, Liturgical worship with Holy Communion, 11 am. 404-873-1355

AUGUSTA

MCC AUGUSTA. Sundays, 11 am and 7 pm. 311 7th Street. 706-722-6454

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF AUGUSTA. Sundays, 10:30 am. 3501 Walton Way. 706-733-7939

COLUMBUS

ANCHORED IN CHRIST MINISTRIES. Sundays 11 am & 7 pm, Wednesdays Bible Study 7 pm. 3818 2nd Ave. 706-653-1488 or 1-888-653-1488. www.anchoredinchristministries.org

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF COLUMBUS. Sundays, 10:30 am. 1442 Double Churches Rd. 706-660-1442

MACON

ST. BARNABAS MCC. Sundays, 6:30 pm. Last Sundays, potluck after services. High Street Unitarian Church, 1085 High Street. 912-722-0057

NORTH GEORGIA

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, DAHLONEGA. Sundays, 11 am. Hwy 19 at Park St. 706 864-0661

NACOOCHEE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SAUTEE. Sundays, 10 am. 706-878-2226

MOUNTAIN LIGHT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, ELLIJAY. Sundays, 10:30 am. 3423 Turniptown Rd. 706-636-4935. www.mluuc.org

SAVANNAH

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAVANNAH, TROUP SQUARE. Sundays, 11 am. 912-234-0980

To add a listing, e-mail **calendar@sovo.com**, call 404-876-1819, ext. 34, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Christopher Seely.

religion news

Internal documents suggest Vatican studying gay priest ban

Internal documents at the Vatican show that **Pope John Paul II** is considering a ban on gay priests in the wake of a sex scandal that has rocked the Catholic Church. (Photo by Domenico Stinellis/AP)

ROME — The Vatican has been internally circulating draft proposals that would bar gays from the priesthood, a policy getting renewed attention in the wake of sex-abuse scandals, according to the Washington Post. Although no action to bar gays from seminaries is likely anytime soon, a senior Vatican official said, the scandals have ignited a debate over whether gay priests and sexual orientation played a role. The proposal argues that gays ought not to be admitted to the priesthood because the Church regards homosexuality as "objectively disordered," according to the Catholic News Service. In effect, their sexual orientation would be enough to bar ordination even if they embraced celibacy as priests. Stephen Brady, president of the Roman Catholic Faithful, called the draft policy "a serious indictment against U.S. bishops" for allowing large numbers of gays into the priesthood in the first place. But Michael S. Winters, a Catholic writer in Washington, said that quiet lobbying by U.S. bishops would prevent the draft from being approved. "Maybe 40 years ago, you could get away with something like this," Winters said. "But everybody knows today that half our clergy are gay, and the overwhelming majority are wonderful priests who don't go out and abuse children. So who are they kidding?"

Anti-gay minister greeted with protests on Shepard anniversary

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — Rev. Fred Phelps and eight anti-gay parishioners inspired a large counterprotest here last week in events marking the fourth anniversary of the death of Matthew Shepard, according to the Associated Press. A group of nearly 400 residents and students at Colorado State University showed up at Hughes Stadium on Oct. 12 to shout down the anti-gay pastor from Topeka, Kan. Phelps' demonstration took place near an entrance to the football stadium, where Colorado State was playing the University of Wyoming, Shepherd's school. Phelps' group's signs proclaimed "No Tears For Queers" and "Thank God For Sept. 11." Shepard, who was gay, was kidnapped, beaten, tied to a fence and left for dead after leaving a Laramie bar with two men Oct. 7, 1998.

Religious leaders split over anti-gay Nev. ballot measure

RENO, Nev. — After Nevada's Catholic bishops embraced an anti-gay ballot measure, another group of local clergy emerged to oppose it, according to the Associated Press. A proposition to ban gay marriages will appear on the November ballot, but 14 religious leaders categorize the initiative as a broader-based effort that will be "denying basic legal privileges to a group of people — gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people — and that is unjust and unholy," said Bob Fulkerson, the group's leader. In a booklet, "There Is No Difference, Only Likeness," the committee argues that the ballot measure is being used to stir hatred and promote discrimination. The initiative, which defines marriage as only between a man and woman, passed in 2000 with 70 percent in favor; it now needs to pass again to amend the Nevada Constitution.

Preachers take anti-gay messages to two college campuses

NEW YORK — Two itinerant preachers inspired more protests than conversions on college campuses last week. Greg Davis, an evangelist minister from New York, preached against homosexuality at the University of New York at Buffalo, according to the Spectrum, a campus newspaper. Universities and colleges are a good place to preach, Davis said, because they "are public, and there are a lot of young people who haven't heard (the gospel). I believe the older you get, the harder your heart gets." His impromptu Oct. 9 sermon was apparently inspired by a student magazine that celebrated National Coming Out Day. Meanwhile, a street preacher met with protests at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga last week, according to the Associated Press.. Students objected to disparaging comments about Muslims, Catholics and gays made by Donnie Morris, a preacher from Wrightsville, Ga.

Australian archbishop cleared of sex abuse charge

SYDNEY, Australia — George Pell, archbishop of Sydney and Australia's most senior Roman Catholic cleric, has been cleared of sex abuse allegations by a man who claimed he was molested several times as a 12-year-old in 1961, according to the Associated Press. An independent inquiry dismissed the complaint and ruled that given the long delay between the alleged abuse and the complaint made earlier this year, it was impossible to produce any forensic evidence. Pell stood down from his position as Sydney's archbishop immediately after the allegations were lodged, but insisted he was innocent. From the moment he ascended to the archbishop's throne in May 2001, Pell made waves. Earlier this year, he was quoted as telling a conference in Canada that abortion was a worse crime than child abuse by priests. He once called homosexuality "a greater health hazard than smoking."

From staff and wire reports

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national news

Burdine attorney fights to continue case

Federal judge steps in to decide who will represent defendant in retrial

By PENNY WEAVER

HOUSTON—In a rare move in American courts, a federal judge called a state judge to his courtroom to resolve a civil suit that stems from the retrial of a gay former Texas death row inmate.

This week, U.S. District Judge David Hittner scheduled a hearing Thursday, and ordered both State District Judge Joan Huffman and attorney Annette Lamoreaux to appear.

Lamoreaux, East Texas regional director for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), represents Calvin Burdine, who is fighting to keep Atlanta attorney Robert McGlasson as his defense counsel.

"At this point, this is unprecedented. There's never been a case that I'm aware of where a federal judge has ordered a state judge into court," Lamoreaux said. "I think that reflects that Judge Hittner is extremely concerned about what's going on."

The U.S. Supreme Court in June refused to intervene in the ongoing case of Burdine, at the time a gay Texas death row inmate, whose lawyer slept through portions of his 1984 capital murder trial.

The high court decision left Texas authorities to either retry Burdine or set him free. Burdine was found guilty of murdering his male lover during a 1983 domestic dispute in the trailer home they shared.

Burdine originally confessed to the crime, but has since said he did not commit the killing and tried to stop the killer, a man who already served a prison sentence for his role in the slaying.

The Supreme Court rejected an appeal from Texas authorities, who argued that the inattention of Burdine's lawyer, Joe Cannon, did not necessarily equal an unfair trial. Cannon is deceased.

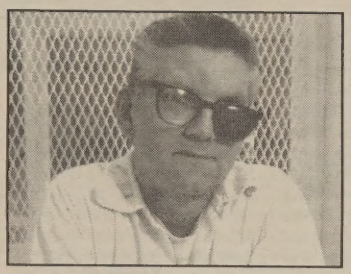
McGlasson handled Burdine's death penalty appeal and appeared with him in Harris County court in mid-June for a hearing to determine Burdine's future counsel.

But at that proceeding, Huffman refused to appoint McGlasson as Burdine's counsel because he is not on the Harris County list of lawyers approved to represent defendants in capital murder cases.

McGlasson's own attorneys then filed an emergency appeal with the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. McGlasson's attorneys argue that Huffman's reasoning is flawed, especially since Burdine's appeal in the "sleeping lawyer" case helped lead to the creation of the qualifying list.

McGlasson was originally appointed by the state to represent Burdine when he was a lawyer in Texas. According to McGlasson's attorneys, existing case law supports the continuance of the attorney-client relationship where possible.

McGlasson could not be reached for comment by press time.



Postponed from this week, a new trial for gay Texan **Calvin Burdine**, formerly on death row in a capital murder case, is now set for March 3. (Photo by AP)

ACLU steps in for Burdine

Lamoreaux represents Burdine for the ACLU as he fights to keep McGlasson as his counsel for the retrial.

Huffman and Lamoreaux met for about three hours Oct. 15 to argue whether or not McGlasson would represent Burdine in his capital murder retrial, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Lamoreaux filed a federal lawsuit over Huffman's refusal to appoint McGlasson.

Federal Judge Hittner ordered both sides into mediation last month with the threat of intervening if there was no resolution, the Chronicle reported. Since the parties now are at an impasse, Hittner will make good on that threat with this week's hearing.

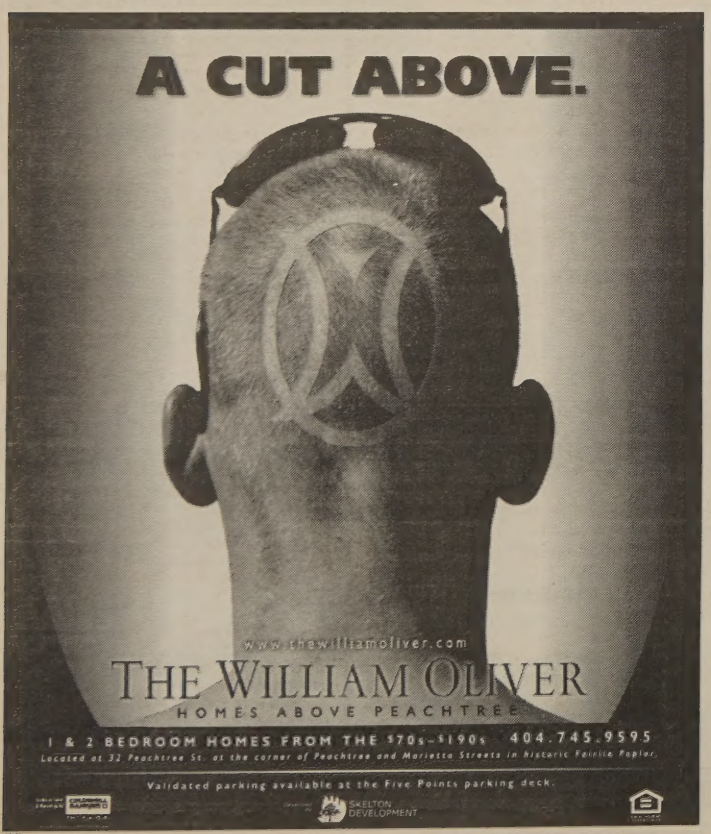
McGlasson is the obvious choice to continue the Burdine case, Lamoreaux said.

"He has an unparalleled knowledge of the facts of this case, in addition to a good relationship with a client who had a very bad relationship with his trial lawyer," Lamoreaux said. "Mr. Burdine very much wants Mr. McGlasson to continue to represent him.

"Under the Sixth Amendment, he has a right to counsel, which includes being free from the court interfering with an ongoing attorney-client relationship," she added. "For Judge Huffman to attempt to interfere with that relationship is a violation of his civil rights."

Although the retrial originally was set to begin Oct. 7, Huffman changed that date to March 3 after criticism that she was hasty in scheduling the retrial date, the Chronicle reported.

Tom Kelley, a spokesperson for the state attorney general's office, told the Chronicle that Hittner, in addition to deciding who will represent Burdine, also will rule on the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit against Huffman.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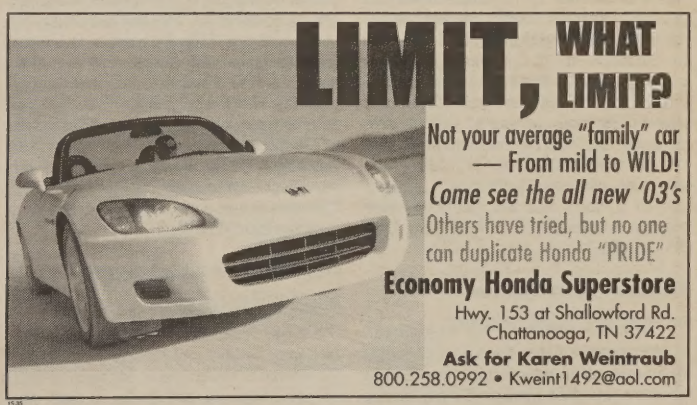
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Health Bazaar

Health summit organizers anticipate calmer waters after threats of violence surfaced last year

By CHRISTOPHER SEELY

The Southeast Regional Gay Men's Health Summit slated for next week returns to Jekyll Island despite the fire it drew from area residents during the inaugural event last year.

Registration for the event begins Oct. 24 at the Clarion Resort Buccaneer, the same hotel that called state troopers last year to protect gay clientele from threats of violence and protest, according to Chris Parsons, finance and logistics chair for the summit.

"We're used to people not liking us, but we didn't realize that there were threats that had been made from Brunswick that they were going to come on over and 'break some faggot legs,'" Parsons said.

Although threats were made, a police presence mitigated any problems, said Maria Gamble, sales director for the Clarion.

"Last year, it was just a lot of talk, but nothing happened," Gamble said.

The hotel has reported no threats in the build-up to this year's events, she said.

"I don't think anyone knows they're coming back," Gamble said.

The "opposition" was a good thing, according to Ben Hadsock, chair of the summit's scholarship committee.

"We had an outside force trying to ruin our summit, but it brought us closer together," he said.

A pastor who initially opposed the event last year softened his stance after attending a portion of the conference.

Rev. Al Baker of Golden Isles Presbyterian Church on St. Simon's Island was unable to organize a protest, so he checked into the hotel and asked to register for the conference, Parsons said.

Parsons admitted him to the conference.

"It was time we turned the other cheek," Parsons said.

But Baker said he attended the health summit because of an interest in helping HIV-positive men.

"I'm just an evangelical Christian, and I felt like we had not been as involved with gay men as we ought to be," Baker said. "The summit was a tremendous experience in my life."

Before attending the summit, Baker used "derogatory words" when referring to gay men, and tolerated gay jokes, he said. But after the summit, he started a weekly HIV-positive service and support group through Coastal Area Support Team, an organization for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The group hosts five to six people a week, Baker said.

"It is the highlight of my week," he said. "I've even had them over to my home several times."

But his outreach to people with HIV doesn't have any bearing on Baker's theological stance on homosexuality.

"They strongly object to the gay lifestyle," Baker said, referring to the force planning protests last year. "I do too."

Baker defined "gay lifestyle" as sex between and among men.

"Any kind of sex outside of marriage is improper, but I respect and love people whatever their position might be," said Baker, adding that his "standard is the bible."

Included among the 42 workshops and two plenary sessions planned for the summit are two sessions that address the role of religion in a gay man's life.

Tom Millner, an industrial psychologist and member of the summit organizing committee, led one of the sessions last year on healing the wounds associated with growing up gay in a Southern church.

"Much of the South has been covered with Christian theology, and most gay folks from the South grow up in a Christian family and then they get older and start dealing with their natural orientation," Millner said. "It comes in conflict with what the mainline evangelical organizations state about homosexuality."

Millner will recycle last year's session and add one entitled "Unclogging the Clobber Passages."

(From left) The Southeast Regional Gay Men's Health Summit last year drew **Earl Fox**, keynote speaker from Johns Hopkins, **Sean Griffiths**, an official with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, and **Tom Millner**, who will lead two workshops this year.

The "clobber passages," scriptures used to berate gay men, will be examined in depth and in context, Millner said.

Other hot topics include a workshop entitled "Am I Cheating: My Relationship & Pornography" and another that addresses the black church and its influence on black men who have sex with men, Parsons said.

Mitchell Gold, founder and CEO of the Mitchell Gold Co., serves as the keynote speaker for the four-day conference, which organizers expect to draw more than 100 people.

Gold will talk "about being a business person and using it as a bully pulpit," he said.

ADODI Muse, a black gay ensemble from Atlanta, provides entertainment for the opening session.

Summit participants can either register by mailing a check or money order to AID Atlanta or by paying on site at the Clarion Hotel.

MORE INFO

Southeast Regional Gay Men's Health Summit
Oct. 24-27
Clarion Resort Buccaneer
85 Beachview Drive
Jekyll Island, GA 31527
912-635-2261
www.aidatlanta.org/summit
$150

AID Atlanta
1438 West Peachtree St., NW
Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30309-2955
404-870-7722

notes

MONDAY OCT. 21

The latest episode of 'Cathy TV,' brainchild of Atlanta City Council President **Cathy Woolard**, *addresses the issue of HIV/AIDS. Guests include Dr. Louis W. Sullivan, co-chair of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, Kim Anderson, executive director of AID Atlanta, and Julie Rhoad, executive director of the NAMES Project. The episode runs through October on Atlanta City Channel 26 on AT&T Broadband. www.cathyatlanta.com*

SATURDAY OCT. 19

OCEAN BREEZE: Gay activist **Ulester Douglas** appears at Charis Books & More to read island culture stories for 'any child,' especially ones ages three to seven. Douglas, best known as co-director of Men Stopping Violence, reads at 11 a.m. as part of Charis' 'Stories for Free Children' series. 404-524-0304

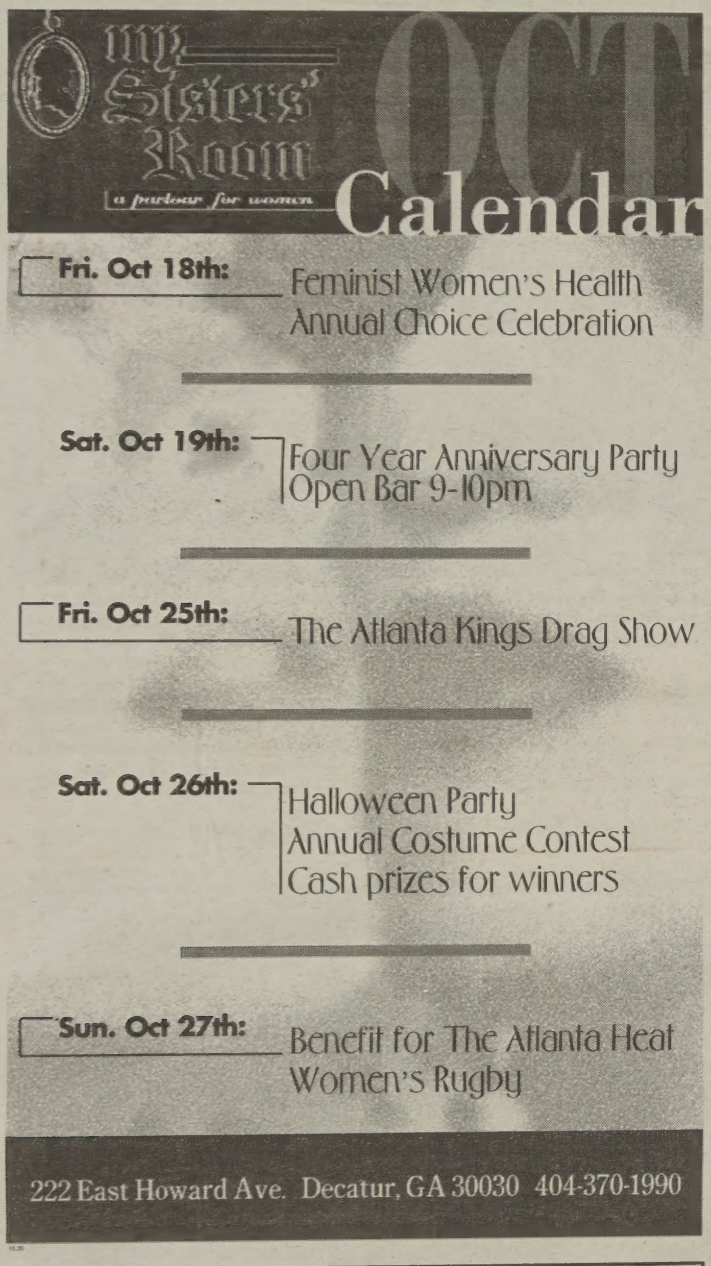
OUT ON CAMPUS: In the Life Atlanta hosts a workshop for black gays to raise awareness of issues they face. Four panelists — including Chris Bell, a critical essayist and columnist on HIV/AIDS, and local straight ally Shauna Marie Phillips — lead the forum **'Living GLBT on Our Campuses and in Our Black Community'** from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Atlanta-Fulton County Library's auditorium. www.inthelifeatl.com or 404-872-6410

AFRICA AIDS: The Cosby Center Auditorium at Spelman College opens its doors at 7:30 p.m. to those concerned about helping people with HIV/AIDS in South Africa. **Barbara and John David Borgman** share their experiences of working in Winterton, South Africa on the issues of HIV/AIDS and child-care/youth work. www.chariscircle.org or 404-254-0304

EAT IT TOO: Bisexual and bi-curious women who are members of the social, support and networking group **CAKE** convene for brunch from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Mick's. Members meet for free; non-members pay $5. Anyone arriving past 1:30 p.m. pays a late fee. Food is not included in the meeting or membership dues. 404-893-9293 or http://wantcake.tripod.com

THURSDAY OCT. 24

QUEER FAMILIES: Georgia State Alliance's Out in October line-up wraps up with a talk entitled **'Queer Families and the Politics of Recognition'** at Troy Moore Library from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. Kath Weston, director of Women's Studies at Harvard University, will be presenting the program. Alliancegsu@hotmail.com



community calendar

ATHENS

SATURDAY OCT. 19

GLBT TEEN GROUP. 2 pm. Presbyterian student center. 706-546-4611 or stock@negia.net

MONDAY OCT. 21

LAMBDA ALLIANCE. 7 pm. UGA's LGBT student organization. Club drugs and club culture. Room 142 of Tate Student Center. 706-583-8297 or www.uga.edu/lambda

ATLANTA

SATURDAY OCT. 19

ATLANTA TEAM TENNIS ASSOCIATION OPEN PLAY. 2-6 pm. Social tennis for players at all levels. Piedmont Park. 770-621-2699

CAKE. A support and networking group for bisexual and women. Brunch. wantcake.tripod.com. 404-893-9293

FRONT RUNNERS. Meet at 8 am in parking lot behind Piedmont Park tennis courts. 770-621-5007

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. Doctors and medical students meet for socializing, support and service. 404-607-0817 or 404-231-2251

GEORGIA FIELD HOCKEY ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S LEAGUE. 9 am-noon. All skill levels welcome. Nori, 770-985-4903

HOTLANTA BASKETBALL. Men at 11:30 am. Women at 2 pm. New association, all skill levels welcome. Atlbasketball@aol.com

LES AMIES. Social club for African-American lesbians over 50. 404-351-3468

SUNDAY OCT. 20

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS. 3:45 rehearsal. Druid Hills Presbyterian Church. 770-438-5823 or AFWChorus@yahoo.com

ATLANTA RAINBOW TROUT. 11 am. Water polo/swim practice. Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. 404-286-6131

BLACK RAINBOW. 6:30-8 pm. Social, support group for young black, gay and bisexual men. YouthPride Center, 302 E. Howard, Decatur. 404-378-6620

COME OUT DANCING, ATLANTA. 2 pm. Partner dance lessons in salsa, swing, waltz, and more. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta, 1911 Cliff Valley Way. $10. 404-876-3950

GAIA COLLECTIVE. 6 pm. Younger and older women learn from each other. Bring your favorite dish. Topics vary with month. Charis Books, 1189 Euclid Ave. 404-524-0304

LAMBDA DINING OUT GROUP. North suburban group. 770-457-5264, LambdaGroup@msn.com

MOUNTAIN FAMILY NETWORK. Dinners & potlucks for gays who live or weekend in the North GA mountains. 706-864-3229

PFLAG ATLANTA. 2:30 pm. 770-662-6475

MY BROTHAZ KEEPER. 6:30 pm. Discussion group for gay, bisexual and questioning men of African heritage, 25-. The Center, 159 Ralph McGill Blvd., 5th floor. 404-978-1268, ext. 1945

SISTAS AGING GRACEFULLY EVERYWHERE. 4 pm. Discussion for black wimmin 40+. YouthPride Center, 302 E. Howard, Decatur. 404-370-0920

MONDAY OCT. 21

FEMME WOMEN FOR BUTCH WOMEN. 6:30 pm. The Center, 159 Ralph McGill Blvd. 404-523-7500 or www.aglc.org

GRRL GROUP. 6:30 – 8 p.m. Ages 13-17. YouthPride, 302 E. Howard Ave. 404-378-6620

HOTLANTA SQUARES. High energy square dancing, no dress code, no pressure, no dance partner and no experience necessary. Meet at First MCC Church of Atlanta, 1379 Tullie Road. 404-432-1809 or hotlantasquares@mindspring.com

TUESDAY OCT. 22

ATLANTA LESBIAN CANCER INITIATIVE. Survivors support group. 6:30 pm. 404-688-2524

ATLANTA OUTWORLDERS. 7 p.m. Interest group for gay science fiction fans meets at Miss Q's on Amsterdam Ave. for "Buffy" at 8 p.m. 770-451-8947. www.outworlders.org

ATLANTA PLAYLAB. 6-8 pm. Free workshop for playwrights. Peachtree Library, 1315 Peachtree. 404-872-8940

ATLANTA RAINBOW TROUT. 8:30 pm. Swim practice. Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. 404-286-6131

FRONT RUNNERS RUN/WALK. 6:30 pm. Meet at the CVS shopping center at the northwest corner of Commerce Drive and Ponce De Leon Ave, Decatur. 770-621-5007

HOTLANTA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION. 7-10 pm. Open play for all levels. 770-621-5062

WEDNESDAY OCT. 23

ATLANTA LESBIAN CANCER INITIATIVE. Bereavement Group. 7 pm. 404-688-2524

CHARIS CIRCLE. 7:30 pm. Catherine McKinley: The Book of Sarahs. Charis Books and More, 1189 Euclid Ave. 404-524-0304

FRONT RUNNERS. 6:30 pm. Meet at parking lot behind Piedmont Park tennis courts. 770-621-5007

GAY FATHERS OF ATLANTA. 7:30 pm. W. Peachtree at North Ave. 404-342-6451

SOUTHEAST ATLANTA GAYS AND LESBIANS. 7:30 pm, Gravity Pub on Glenwood Ave. 404-614-0959

TEEN GROUP. Teen support group at YouthPride (ages 13-18), 6:30-8 pm. 302 E. Howard Ave. 404-378-6620

YOUNG ADULT GROUP. Group for ages 18-24 at YouthPride, 6:30-8 pm. 302 E. Howard Ave. 404-378-6620

THURSDAY OCT. 24

ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS. Rehearsals 7:30 – 10 pm. First Metropolitan Community Church, 1379 Tullie Rd. Atlanta, GA 30329. 404-320-1030 or www.agmchorus.org

ATLANTA RAINBOW TROUT. 8:30 p.m. Swim practice. Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. 404-286-6131

ATLANTA WOMEN'S RUGBY. Practice 7-9 pm. Matches on Saturdays, no experience necessary. www.atlantaheatwrfc.com

BOYTALK. 6:30-8 pm. Discussion group for gay youth 18-24. At YouthPride, 302 E. Howard Ave. 404-378-6620

CHARIS CIRCLE. 7:30 pm. Nicole Williams: A Little Piece of Sky. Charis Books and More, 1189 Euclid Ave. 404-324-0304

CLITERATI. Grrls' spoken word open mic. 8 p.m. Tower II, Ralph McGill Blvd. 404-687-9807, Tankgrrl10@hotmail.com

COME OUT DANCING, ATLANTA. 7 pm. Partner dance lessons in salsa, swing, waltz, and more. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta, 1911 Cliff Valley Way. $10. 404-876-3950

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS. 3E D&D weekly group meeting in downtown Atlanta. Open to all levels of gay and gay-friendly RPG players. ajones@mindspring.com

GEORGIA STATE ALLIANCE. 3-4 pm. Queer Families and the Politics of Recognition. Troy Moore Library, 939 General Classroom Building. Alliancegsu@hotmail.com

GUYTALK. 7 pm. For gay & bisexual men. The Center, 159 Ralph McGill Blvd., 6th Floor. 404-523-7500

LESBIAN AVENGERS. 7:30 pm. Weekly meeting of Atlanta chapter, open to all ages & gender identities. YouthPride, 302 E. Howard Ave., Decatur. 404-978-1262 ext. 7744, or lesbianavengers@onebox.com

LGBT MOVIE GROUP. Movie followed by discussion at nearby restaurant. 404-872-0726 or rambook@aol.com

LONG TERM SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP. 7:30-9 pm. Must pre-register. Lawrenceville. 770-962-8396, ext. 28

POETRY READING. 7:30 pm. Share works with local writers. Outwrite Books, 991 Piedmont Ave. 404-607-0082

SAFE HARBOR. 7:30 p.m. Christian fellowship and bible study for gay men and lesbians. 770-717-9971 or404-622-8561

WOMYN'S GROUP. Ages 18-24 at YouthPride. 6:30-8 pm. 302 E. Howard Ave. 404-378-6620

FRIDAY OCT. 25

ATLANTA FREEDOM MARCHING BAND. 7 pm. First Metropolitan Community Church, 1379 Tullie Way. 404-622-0666

ATLANTA RAINBOW TROUT. 7:30 pm. Water polo/swim practice. Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. 404-286-6131

HOTLANTA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION. Evenings. Open play for all levels. 770-621-5062

MACON

FRIDAY OCT. 25

CCAN Potluck Luncheons. Noon. Bring a covered dish to share. Diversity House Project, 2020 Ingleside Ave.

SAVANNAH

SATURDAY OCT. 19

LESBIAN POTLUCK. First City Network. 912-236-2489

SUNDAY OCT. 20

FRIENDS & COMPANY. 6 pm. AMF Victory Lanes. 912-354-0658

MONDAY OCT. 21

BOWLING LEAGUE. 9 pm. For single lesbians and gay men. AmF Savannah Lanes, 115 Tibet Avenue. $10/week. Trey or Trish, 912-925-0320

THURSDAY OCT. 24

GAY YOUTH GROUP. 7 pm. First City Network office, third floor. Gene, 800-484-1913, pin 5353

To add a listing, e-mail **calendar@sovo.com**, call 404-876-1819, ext. 34, or fax to 404-876-2709, attn: Christopher Seely. Entries should be submitted at least 14 days in advance

community news

Funeral home same-sex harassment case goes to trial

ATLANTA — With charges of same-sex sexual harassment, gay pornography, sex toys and fondling a deceased prominent Atlanta minister, a lawsuit filed by three heterosexual former funeral home employees goes to trial Oct. 21, according to plaintiffs' attorney Ed Buckley. The plaintiffs charge that Service Corporation International, the world's largest provider of funeral services, allowed the sexual harassment and retaliated against them when they attempted to fight it. SCI owns 15 funeral homes, cemeteries and crematoria in the Atlanta area, but the complaint centers around H.M. Patterson & Sons' Spring Hill funeral home, located on Spring Street in Midtown Atlanta. "The law that applies in cases of sexual harassment by men against women and women against men shouldn't change one whit when applied to men against men or women against women," Buckley said. Attorneys for SCI did not respond to interview requests.

Jennifer J. Smith

Attorney **Ed Buckley** represents three former employees of H.M. Patterson funeral home. The case of the heterosexual male plaintiffs alleging same-sex sexual harassment at the home two years ago goes to trial Oct. 21.

Lesbian cop files discrimination claim

DECATUR — Less than two weeks after losing an employee grievance complaint charging the city of Decatur with discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender and disability, former police officer Criss Hudson took her case Oct. 4 to the state Equal Employment Opportunity Commission office. "I am deeply hurt and disappointed," said Hudson, a lesbian. Because the state of Georgia does not offer protection from employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, "we are limited to filing a complaint based on gender discrimination," said Ed Buckley, Hudson's attorney. Hudson and two heterosexual male officers had their pay cut on May 2 as a disciplinary measure after they were accused of cheating on an open-book, on-line college exam, according to Buckley. Hudson, an 18-year police veteran, was informed the same day that her position was also being dismantled. Hudson filed an employee grievance in June, and a decision was announced at the end of September. Decatur City Manager Peggy Merriss has denied any discrimination against Hudson, saying the position was "eliminated." The City of Decatur has 10 days to respond to an EEOC invitation for mediation, according to commission policies. After that time, the EEOC would begin an investigation into Hudson's complaint,which could take up to six months.

Jennifer J. Smith

Local Victory Fund committee to host Halloween bash

ATLANTA — The recently formed Atlanta steering committee for the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund celebrates past Victory Fund successes and pushes onward to the November elections at a pre-Halloween rooftop reception on Oct. 29 at the Block Candy Building. The reception features elected politicians who graduated from the Victory Fund's campaign training. Toledo, Ohio City Council member Lewis Escobar is the evening's main speaker and is the only openly gay elected official from his state, according to Cindy Abel, a Fund graduate and event organizer. Escobar won a second term on the Toledo City Council in November 2001. U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.), the first openly member of Congress, will also address attendees. The Victory Fund recruits, trains and supports open lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered candidates and officials. The event will be catered by Einstein's.

Christopher Seely

MORE INFO

Victory Fund Rooftop Reception
Oct. 29, 7-9:30 p.m.
Block Candy Building
512 Means St.
Atlanta, GA 30318
Tickets range from $50 - $1,200
www.victoryfund.org

Zoo hosts Jerusalem House Halloween carnival

ATLANTA — Jerusalem House is throwing a Halloween benefit carnival party, dubbed HeartLight Halloween, at Zoo Atlanta on Oct. 26. Jerusalem House chose to throw the Halloween dress-up bash at the zoo because "it gives it a spooky feel with the roars of the animals in the background," said Ellen McCarty, executive director of Jerusalem House. Elton John was named as the event's honorary chair, but McCarty said he received confirmation that he would be in attendance by press time. All proceeds from the silent auctions, raffles and tickets fund two housing programs run by Jerusalem House. Jerusalem House assists formerly homeless single adults with HIV/AIDS by providing them permanent housing. "More and more, as the medications are making a difference, people are using it as an opportunity to stabilize and move on," McCarty said. The group hopes to raise $100,000.

Christopher Seely

MORE INFO

HeartLight Halloween
Oct. 26, 7 p.m.
Zoo Atlanta, Grant Park
Atlanta, GA 30315
$75 in advance, $100 at gate
404-527-7627

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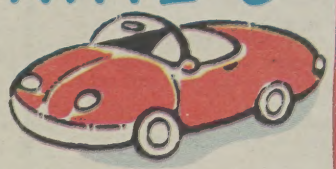
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editorial

Nasty or not, Rosie hurts us

The real Rosie's not actually a **bad girl**, but rebelling against her former milquetoast image after convincing Americans to trust her is **hurting the movement** for gay rights.

By STEVE FRIESS

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM has it that the "real" Rosie O'Donnell is now standing up as a self-proclaimed "über-bitch," finally retiring the saccharine "Queen of Nice" crown that made her famous.

Gays don't mind much, figuring that since coming out is about being true to oneself, that Rosie's entitled to be an obnoxious idiot if that's really who she is.

But in the process, Rosie is not only unraveling everything that she meant to Middle America, she's also betraying the gay-rights movement at a most promising moment. Perhaps she shouldn't feel obligated to either constituency, but she asked for it when she told Diane Sawyer on national TV that she's the role model straight Americans should consider "the gay parent."

Apparently Rosie now wants the world to think the gay parent is a foul-mouthed, back-stabbing egomaniac who would rather put an entire magazine staff out of their jobs in the middle of a recession than suck it up and pose for a cover story here or there.

We'd be required by our creed as out gay men and lesbians to accept this from Rosie if this were her genuine persona now emerging — but it's not, which makes the whole mess so much more horrible.

NO, THIS AIN'T THE REAL ROSIE. I know the real Rosie. I got to know her when I was a teenager on Long Island in the late 1980s. She was a VJ on VH1, and I'd tune in whenever I could to catch those adorable segments between the videos when she'd yammer randomly about her family life and her celebrity fascinations.

She didn't know it, but she and I bonded when her first niece or nephew was born just as my first nephew was born. I had no idea back then that she was a lesbian or I was gay, but her utter obsession with the new child in her family matched mine.

I was surprised when she went on to stardom because I didn't think anyone else out there really "got" her unconventional appeal. In fact, millions got it.

Her roles in "Sleepless in Seattle" and "A League of Their Own" were just a variation of the VH1 Rosie I knew, the likable gal pal always ready to chill with a vat of Haagen-Dazs and a rental from Blockbuster.

Then, of course, came her years as the most peculiar talk-show icon, a normal woman who brought some sanity and substance back to the world Ricki Lake and Jerry Springer. That, too, was a mere extension of her old VH1 schtick, only now Rosie had gone national with better lighting and better clothes.

It worked because she was one of us, an average-looking lady who loved the same celebrities we did — but who somehow got them to fulfill everybody's fantasy by getting them to love her back.

SO WHY'S ROSIE NOW PRETENDING to be a bad grrrl? Perhaps it's because she became friends through the course of her entertainment career with so many personalities more interesting than herself.

In that company, she surely must have started to feel like milquetoast. Being loved by America is nice but so mammoth a concept as to be impossible for an ego to register. Having Madonna think you're cool is something almost tangible.

As a fellow goody-goody, I think I understand.

Back in the sixth grade, I was so desperate to be noticed by my peers that I wrote a profane essay about our teacher having a fictitious sexual encounter with the music instructor. The other kids thought it was hilarious, and I basked in my newfound, if ill-gotten, notoriety — until the letter somehow made its way to Mr. Heck himself.

He confronted me about it with the saddest eyes, wondering why his star student would be so cruel and hurtful, so different than I'd always been. He didn't bother to tell my parents, probably figuring rightfully that seeing the betrayal in his face would be punishment enough.

Unfortunately, the American public won't be so wise or forgiving. Rosie, voted most "huggable" media personality last year in a survey, is now a source of a similar confusion and disappointment to what Mr. Heck held for me.

The masses liked her. They were comfortable with her. Their affection gave her fame, fortune and influence, though she probably thinks it was her talent that did all that. They trusted her, and they started to warm up to the concept that lesbians could be their fun-loving big sister, their doting daughter or their next-door neighbor.

More importantly, they were starting to root for her to have her family — however she defined it — because she seemed normal and trustworthy. Now they don't know what to think, other than to wonder if every queer who seems like them is, as they used believe, merely pretending to be normal.

Rosie offered herself up as the example, got them to buy it and then gave them a big raspberry for their trust in her.

Ellen DeGeneres took a lot of heat for squandering her coming-out moment by making her sitcom "too gay." But at least Ellen was actually being herself and experimenting with a creative concept that actually did work most of the time. Ellen's choices may have seemed errant, but nobody disliked her personally for them.

Rosie was supposed to be the one who came out "right," not just to announce that she loves women but to push an important political agenda for her family.

But when this chapter of gay history is written, with all the nastiness sure to come in the coming court battles over her magazine, all anyone will remember is the tragic miscalculation of a misguided woman who rejected the essential lessons of the coming out process by trying to be something she's not.

@ Nevada-based freelancer **Steve Friess** is a frequent contributor to USA Today, the Christian Science Monitor and People magazine. He can be reached through **www.SteveFriess.com**.

letters

A law would equate hate with terrorism

To the Editor:

Re "When is hate not a crime?" (op-ed by Robert Boleyn, Oct. 4):

Hate crimes target an entire community of people, not just one individual. In crime there's always a motive; and when prejudice motivates violence against person or property, there ought to be tougher sentencing to recognize the offenders as terrorists.

Unfortunately, bigots require a legal mandate to understand that no racial, ethnic, religious, sexual, age, or ability group should be denied equal access to the rights and privileges enjoyed by another.

Discrimination in hiring may be bad for business, passing over desirable talent. But until the law said it was wrong, the corporate world had no idea how valuable black and female employees could be.

Hate crime legislation also reminds enforcement authorities of their responsibility to protect everyone, regardless of their minority status. The message goes to a judge or jury, also, who might otherwise be biased against the victim who is "only a queer."

In Reno, Nevada, openly-gay high school student Derek Henkle was physically assaulted by fellow students while on school property. School officials were aware of the verbal and physical harassment and abuse, and had the authority to institute corrective and preventative measures, but repeatedly and intentionally failed.

A $451,000 award may small justice for Mr. Henkle, but more than a school district should want to pay for the negligence of homophobic security personnel. In some states of "zero tolerance" for bystanders, those school personnel would have been prosecuted as accomplices.

Columnist Robert Boleyn's prescription for a "concerted, grassroots effort of education that demonstrates the value of each individual" would take generations to reverse centuries of intolerance.

Some laws exist for those without the common sense or moral fiber to obey them in the first place. Simple-minded, would-be offenders need a legal definition that equates a hate crime with domestic terrorism, to consider the full weight of society's reaction to their violence.

CLINTON CONNER
Hawkinsville, Ga.

No 'pleasant surprise' in GOP abstinence plank

To the Editor:

The GOP does it again ("State GOP platform stresses abstinence education," news, Oct. 4).

Of all of the education initiatives that Georgia education system could implement with $10 million, the Georgia Republican Party, according to its new platform, would like to use it for abstinence education.

Not math. Not science. Not to cure the shortage of foreign language teachers that is forcing state colleges and universities to contemplate dropping the existing foreign language requirement for admission.

No, they want it to go towards promoting abstinence as some sort of puritanical "family value" that demonizes any and all sexual behavior. They even fail to provide information as to where the money is to come from.

In typical "black or white" GOP style, the spokesperson for gubernatorial candidate Sonny Perdue defended the plank, saying, "Abstinence is 100-percent effective, and we don't want contraceptives made available to 12 and 13 year-olds in public schools."

How did we get from age-appropriate sex education to contraceptives being made available to middle school children? This is ludicrous. So much for "no child left behind." Why is the state GOP so afraid of taking a holistic (and, again, age-appropriate) approach to sex ed? What is it going to take, another increase in the rate of infection of HIV and other STDs in heterosexuals?

I think that Marc Yeager, president of the Georgia Log Cabin Republicans, neatly summarized the nature of his party when he was quoted as saying he was "pleasantly surprised when he read [the platform]" because there was "no anti-gay language."

Yeager is further quoted as saying that convincing Republican lawmakers that gay votes matter is the "job of gay Republicans and that's why we need more members in the GLCR. Numbers count."

Let's see: I want to be a member of and provide my support to a political party or organization that surprises me (pleasantly) when there is no anti-gay rhetoric in their official party line?

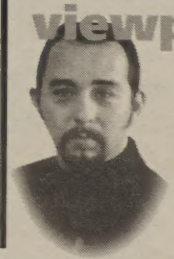
I have a funny feeling that there was no pro-gay rhetoric either for that matter. Now, that would be a surprise. Where do I sign up?

BRAXTON DUKE
Atlanta

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

dis information
©2002 BY ALISON BECHDEL
MEANWHILE, GINGER GRAPPLES WITH THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND BUFFALO LAKE STATE.
MS. JORDAN, I JUST WANT TO OBJECT TO OUR ASSIGNMENT FOR THURSDAY. IT'S LIKE, AGAINST THE CONSTITUTION FOR YOU TO MAKE US READ THE KORAN.
IT IS?
YEAH, CAUSE YOU'RE LIKE, FORCING RELIGION ON US. SO I REFUSE TO READ IT. NO WAY.
PARTY ON, BRO. ME TOO.
FINE. YOU CAN EITHER TAKE A QUIZ ON THE READING, OR GIVE ME A THREE PAGE ESSAY EXPLAINING WHY YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DO IT.
ME TOO.
THAT IS SO VIOLATING OUR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS.
YEAH.
YEAH.
THIS JOB IS SO VIOLATING MY LIFE, LIBERTY, AND PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS.
BRAND IT AND THEY WILL COME! WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO RATIONALITY? TO COMMON SENSE? TO HUMAN DECENCY?
SWEETIE, KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN. WE DON'T WANT THE NEIGHBORS REPORTING US AS A TERROR CELL.
...SIDE EFFECTS ARE MILD AND INCLUDE INSOMNIA, LOW OIL PRESSURE, AND INCREASED RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS...

viewpoint MARTÍN ORNELAS-QUINTERO



Anti-gay ballot measure in Miami-Dade lost, but the Latino vote was lopsided in favor. Why? Because **gay activists ignored us.**

Latinos are missing from the movement

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR the work accomplished in Miami. Our collective efforts won the battle against the repeal of the Miami-Dade Human Rights Ordinance, and yet almost two-thirds of Latino voters — 62.9 percent — voted in favor of the anti-gay referendum.

With more resources available to effectively educate the Latino community, our collective efforts might have been more fruitful.

The approach by mainstream LGBT organizations was a tactical one: focus on getting out the vote, but steer clear of South Florida's large, conservative Cuban population. LLEGÓ was the only group that bothered to target this group.

Why? Because we oppose the deliberate exclusion of any ethnic and racial minority group irrespective of that group's political views.

LLEGÓ contributed $30,000 to wage a campaign specifically targeted at Spanish-speaking Latinos from the Miami-Dade area. The campaign involved a bi-partisan, local grassroots effort led by Latinos for Latinos.

Our efforts included radio ads and the utilization of prime-time radio talk shows, the distribution of pamphlets in neighborhood mercados and restaurants; sit-down conversations with elderly Latinos; and old-fashioned word of mouth.

The money and human resources invested in the campaign paid off. The final tally showed that the Latino vote changed by a 6-point margin from initial polling data. We were also successful in carrying the Latino vote in all but four of Miami-Dade's key districts with heavy Latino populations.

THE LACK OF OUTREACH TO LATINOS by gay rights groups was even more glaring a few years ago in California in the fight against the Knight Initiative. While leaders in the gay rights movement struggled to launch an effective English-language campaign, little to no money was geared toward Spanish-speaking Latino voters.

The anti-gay-marriage folks strategically invested in this key community, and the result was devastating: California passed a referendum limiting marriage, with Latinos voting by a large margin in its favor. The outcome landed a stunning blow to the national fight in the struggle to obtain equality.

The Latino community represents the largest minority group in the country, and accounting for 12.5 percent of the U.S. population, and that means we need to take into account the power that the Latino community wields.

Fundamentalist groups and the Republican Party have heeded the demographic imperative that the burgeoning Latino community represents. Both have actively invested significant dollar amounts to curry favor with Latinos, and court the Latino vote. Both have had rewarding results.

Partisanship and religion aside, Latinos overwhelmingly cast bloc-votes on issues of concern to them. Why then do we continue to overlook the power that Latinos wield? Why do we continue to invest little to no money in the Latino vote? Perhaps our leaders should reconsider their community mobilization efforts and reevaluate the meaning of "inclusion."

AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LLEGÓ, I must remind my colleagues of the importance that inclusion has played in the LGBT movement. The movement was in part started because of discriminatory laws that have effectively excluded us from equal protection under the law.

Yet, the LGBT movement has shown us, time and time again, that communities of color are not actively engaged as equal partners. Our participation is not readily welcome. The invitation to participate is often tokenistic. When we participate it is rarely ever in parody with our partners in the movement.

Our community is too often left to rely on little to no resources. We are forced to compete with other communities of color for funding to keep our organizations in existence. Latino initiatives within the gay rights movement typically employ the use of a solitary Latino to do our community's work. We are only solicited on a single-issue, temporary basis.

The Latino community is much more than an accessory item in the armored suit of politics. We are intricately woven into its very existence.

As the November elections approach, Latinos are poised to increase their presence in Congress, and in state and locally elected bodies.

If we cannot or are unwilling to actively engage the Latino community as partners in the struggle, then LGBT Latinos should reconsider our integration into the overarching movement.

Martín Ornelas-Quintero is executive director of LLEGÓ, the National Latina/o Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Organization; he can be reached at **MOQ@llego.org**.

viewpoint DAVID BIANCO

We will never see full acceptance when **forced same-sex intercourse** is de facto part of law enforcement's strategy.

Prison rape is a gay issue

THERE'S AN APPALLING SCANDAL concerning homosexuality and the U.S. government that Congress may finally start to address this fall: that male-male rape is a widely accepted form of social control in our prisons, with the blessing of much of the penal system.

The proposed Prison Rape Reduction Act of 2002 would fund research on the extent of the problem, set national standards to protect inmates, and provide incentives for prisons to meet those standards.

This legislation is urgently needed. Prison rape has always been a danger for those behind bars, but the fact that many prisoners, will be repeatedly violated during their incarceration is rarely even treated as regrettable; usually, it's a gleeful joke.

Prosecutors and judges make wisecracks about anal sex when discussing sentencing, and prison guards cynically use sexually violent inmates to solidify their control over other prisoners.

BUT A SERIOUS LOOK AT THE VICTIMS of prison rape shows it's not funny:

* Roderick Johnson, serving time for writing a bad check, was virtually enslaved by prison gangs who rented him out to be raped almost daily. When he protested, an administrator allegedly called him a "dirty tramp" who had to "learn to fight or accept the fucking."

*Kendell Spruce was raped by at least 20 different men during his year-long incarceration. He contracted AIDS, which means our government essentially gave him a capital sentence for a misdemeanor crime.

* Rodney Hulin, Jr., a small-statured 17-year-old imprisoned for setting a trash container on fire, was repeatedly violated so viciously he committed suicide behind bars.

American politicians wink at such horrors with homophobic amusement. Last year, California Attorney General Bill Lockyer quipped that he'd love to personally escort Enron executive Kenneth Lay to a prison cell "with a tattooed dude who says 'Hi, my name is Spike, honey.'"

Did gays in the Golden State rise up to protest their top cop's crude homophobia? Not when the remark came from a longtime liberal supporter of gay causes who won an award from the Stonewall Democrats.

IT'S EASY TO DISMISS PRISON RAPE AS "not our problem" because it takes place far from view, usually involves straight-identifying people, and makes us uncomfortable.

Plus, the fact that some gay and bisexual men eroticize prisons can get in the way of thinking about this matter as a serious crisis.

But prison rape has toxic ramifications that make it incontrovertibly a gay issue. Gay-identified prisoners are often targeted the most, while their complaints register the least, because officials assume "they like it."

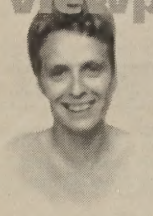
Further, we can never really be fully welcomed participants in American life when forced same-sex intercourse is a de facto part of the nation's strategy for keeping the populace in line.

So far, none of the large national gay and lesbian organizations is supporting the rape-reduction bill. In fact, since the demise of the far-left Bromfield Street Educational Foundation three years ago, no major gay organization has worked on prison issues at all. The ACLU has devoted some energy to the cause, but through its Prisoners' Rights Division, not its Lesbian & Gay Rights Division.

Left-wingers argue all the time that affirmative action and welfare reform are gay issues because some peopleaffected are gay. Well, some prison rape victims are gay.

David Bianco is a historian and author, and can be reached at **DaveBianco@aol.com**.

viewpoint PAULA MARTINAC



Some gay men have problem with new, assertive **Rosie**, even when icons like Cher are celebrated for same thing.

A lesbian's take on not-so-nice Rosie

THERE HAS BEEN MIXED RESPONSE in the gay press to Rosie O'Donnell's public brawl with Gruner + Jahr, publisher of her eponymous magazine.

Gay columnist Michelangelo Signorile has been sympathetic to O'Donnell, pointing out the implied homophobia of G+J's assertion that the "Queen of Nice" has changed for the worse since coming out. In contrast, gay journalist Steve Friess has chastised O'Donnell for presenting gay parents as "foul-mouthed" and "backstabbing." ("Nasty or not, Rosie hurts us," op-ed, page 26).

What's been missing from such gay male responses is a critique of the sexism underlying O'Donnell's story — to put it simply, many people get uncomfortable when a woman doesn't act "nice."

Although there have been some stunned gasps about O'Donnell's supposed transformation to "über-bitch," the shift in her public persona should not have surprised anyone — except maybe those who think celebrities aren't real people.

Her public coming out seems to have freed O'Donnell to reveal the many and varied sides of her personality instead of just the "nice" one. After all, she's not a smiley-face emoticon, but a multidimensional human being who can be and feel different things.

WHEN I SPOKE TO O'DONNELL ON THE phone last spring in preparation for an interview, I met two Rosies. One was a very good listener with a warm, engaging manner who made me feel like we'd known each other for years, not minutes. The other was a direct, no-nonsense business executive accustomed to laying down the law — what some might call a "bitch."

To me, the two sides didn't seem to be in conflict. In fact, her particular combination of strong personality traits probably has a lot to do with why O'Donnell — like Oprah Winfrey — is one of the richest, most successful women around.

But 30-plus years into the second wave of feminism, the word "bitch" is still used to keep uppity women, rich and poor, in their place. There's no real male equivalent for the epithet. An outspoken, take-charge, controlling man is just the boss.

"No one calls Jack Welch [former CEO of General Electric] a bitch," O'Donnell observed in her interview with Martha Stewart, another successful "bitch," published earlier this year in Rosie magazine before her own troubles began.

Oddly, many men and women alike still seem to believe that being "nice," not forceful, is a woman's natural realm. Some are even incredulous or annoyed if a woman like O'Donnell ventures outside her approved sphere.

O'Donnell "used to be this nice, funny, sweet woman," complained CNN anchor Anderson Cooper, a gay man. He then proceeded to ridicule her "butchy" hairstyle on national television.

And what happened, Friess laments, to "the likable gal pal" and "fun-loving big sister" O'Donnell used to be? Like Cooper, Friess then took his own potshot, speculating that she decided to become a "bad grrrl" to make herself seem less average.

CONSIDER O'DONNELL'S SUPPOSEDLY new persona from her own perspective. In an interview on the "Isaac Mizrahi Show," she admitted to her host that having to be so "nice" all the time as a talk-show host "became a little oppressive."

You don't need to be as rich as Rosie to understand what she means. Just like men, women don't feel "nice" all the time, including when their work atmosphere is unpleasant or a business partnership goes sour.

In a lot of ways, lesbians are the quintessence of the "not-nice" woman. We have no reason to please men, straight or gay, by smiling constantly, or wearing what they consider to be attractive hairstyles, or standing in as their nurturing big-sister and mommy figures. Some of us are angry — and show it — when men don't or won't do anything to obliterate sexism. And that includes gay men.

I find it curious, for example, that some gay men turn celebrity "bitches" like Barbra and Cher into icons, but feel threatened by the angry lesbians in their own lives. Maybe that's because, to them, lesbians are "bitches" *and* "butches" — not a very "nice" combination, and exactly what O'Donnell is getting grief for.

For me, though, the sight of O'Donnell announcing her break with her publisher — with another "bitch," former U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White, at her side as legal counsel — was a real, "You go, girl!"

@ *Paula Martinac is an author and syndicated writer and can be reached at* PMcolumn@aol.com.

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on the record

"I think if anything I had underestimated people's homophobia. The tabloids have been like piranhas round a rotting corpse. ... You get all these male journalists asking you what it's like to kiss a girl. I just think, 'You're a bloody man, you tell me!'"

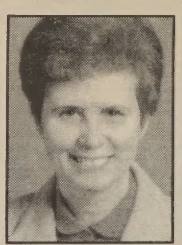
Rachael Stirling , who plays a young woman whose self-discovery includes a lesbian love scene with Keeley Hayes in the new BBC drama 'Tipping the Velvet' (The Guardian, Oct. 8)

"Your suggestion that I am sending the 'wrong message' in not filing a hate crime is irresponsible and panders to a vigilante mentality inconsistent with due process. I took an oath to uphold the law as chief prosecutor of Los Angeles County. I am responsible to the people, not the politicians."

*Los Angeles County District Attorney **Steve Cooley**, in a letter to L.A. Mayor James Hahn, responding to criticism of Cooley for not prosecuting as hate crimes two recent beatings of gay men in West Hollywood (Los Angeles Times, Oct. 12)*

"In high school I was big enough to get past the gay thing. Freshman football, I went out to hurt people. I found the biggest redneck and went for his knees sideways, stomped his face when he was down. I was a monster, a legend. And then I could go jump rope with the girls."

Rodger McFarlane, 47, competing next month on a team with three middle-aged lesbians in a 10-day adventure race in Fiji that will be filmed by producer Mark Burnett, creator of the "Survivor" series (New York Times, Sept. 22)



"I met a gay man and became very good friends with him. Then I met his friends. He kept saying, 'What is the Catholic Church doing for my gay friends and sisters?' I said I didn't know, and he said, 'Why don't you do something?'"

*Sister **Jeannine Gramick**, rebuked by the Vatican for her ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics, on her original motivation (Toledo Blade, Oct. 5)*

"I'm excited about the fact that I could make history, but I recognize if I'm elected it's because I'm best-suited to represent the values of this district."

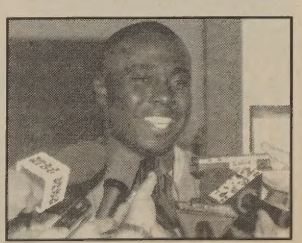
John Laird, former mayor of Santa Cruz, Calif., on his bid to become the first openly gay man to serve in the California General Assembly, which has had several out lesbian members (Santa Cruz Sentinel, Oct. 13)

"I would never do anything to turn against my raising. Marriage is intended to be between a man and a woman. Period."

Congressman Mike Ross (D-Ark.) in a recent televised debate (Associated Press, Oct. 13)

"Mr. Ross is on loan from the liberals to our conservative cause. He will turn over the agenda to the gay and lesbian lobby. He's accepted money from them. He's accepted business from them."

Former Congressman Jay Dickey (R-Ark.), in a televised debate with Mike Ross, the man who successfully challenged Dickey in the 2000 election (Associated Press, Oct. 13)



"I'd have nothing against anybody if they were gay, but really, I don't want to know. ... I don't want to know what so-and-so did with his wife last night, so why would I want to know if he's smoking the pole?"

*Veteran NFL running back **Marshall Faulk**, of the St. Louis Rams (Playboy, November issue)*

action! alert

Viacom embraces AIDS cause

Multi-million dollar prevention campaign includes gay men in wide-ranging project

By MIKE FLEMING

The creators of NBC's 'Frasier' agreed to include AIDS in a storyline next season for its part in a multi-million dollar HIV prevention campaign by Viacom. The show, the work of gay producer and writer Joe Keenan, is produced in a studio owned by Viacom, the parent company of CBS and MTV.

IN RESPONSE TO ONGOING RESEARCH that says HIV infections are spreading disproportionately in specific at-risk populations — including gay and bisexual men — media giant Viacom last week announced an aggressive awareness and prevention campaign against the virus.

Viacom said Oct. 9 it is partnering with the Kaiser Family Foundation, a national health advocacy organization, to launch a global media campaign spreading the word about HIV/AIDS.

"Global AIDS is the greatest health challenge of our generation and the media can be a powerful tool in educating people about the disease," said Drew Altman, president of Kaiser.

Viacom is the parent company of the CBS and UPN television networks as well as cable networks Showtime, BET, Nickelodeon, MTV, TNN, CMT and VH1. The company also owns the Paramount television studio that produces programs such as "Frasier" for NBC.

Viacom designated $120 million in advertising for public service announcements on its TV and radio networks and across its outdoor and online properties. The PSAs will be offered rights-free to other media outlets.

BUT WHAT MAY PROVE TO BE EVEN more effective in reaching audiences is that Viacom pledged to "strongly suggest" to its creative outlets — teams that write and produce televised programming — to include HIV/AIDS messages in storylines and subplots.

The cost to produce the ad portion of the plan is estimated at $3 million. Viacom will contribute half of the money, while Kaiser pledged another $1 million. Two high-ranking Viacom officials have pledged to donate the remaining $500,000.

Creative teams with UPN's "Girlfriends," CBS's "Becker" and "Frasier" have already agreed to include plotlines addressing HIV in the shows.

THE CAMPAIGN "ABSOLUTELY" includes outreach to gays, according to a statement from Mel Karmazin, Viacom's president and COO, despite initial press reports about the project that did not include gays as a target of the effort.

"In the U.S., the campaign will seek to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and promote prevention among the population-at-large and target groups that have been particularly hard hit by the disease," Karmazin said. "That specifically includes youth, people of color, women and men who have sex with men."

Viacom's size offers a unique opportunity to reach people, said Beth George, regional media manager for the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, a gay media watchdog group.

"Media has always had such a huge impact on people's lives, and for a company like Viacom with such a huge reach to make such an effort is highly anticipated and appreciated," George said.

Scott Seomin, GLAAD's director of entertainment media, is scheduled to meet with Viacom in the coming weeks to suggest ways to reach gay men, George said.

GLAAD joins several high-profile politicians, gay activists and AIDS advocates in applauding Viacom's initiative, including the Gay Men's Health Crisis, UN/AIDS, AIDS Action, former President Clinton's AIDS Czar Sandra Thurman and gay U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.).

"That such a large conglomerate like Viacom is willing to be so supportive to our causes is just another example of how progressive their company is," said Marty Algaze, director of communications for the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

There has been a growing amount of complacency, especially among young gay men, when it comes to AIDS, and old messages to reach them are not working, Algaze said.

"The reality is that people are still dying. The drugs are not a panacea, and Viacom's campaign is going to be a way to tailor that message so that people will understand it and hopefully get it," Algaze said.

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LOVE FOR SALE: Andy Garcia plays a male prostitute who won't take same-sex customers in 'The Man from Elysian Fields.' **Page 37**

FALL FOOD: A hearty soup takes the edge off of cool weather, while soothing the mind and heart. **Page 51**

Gay gallery owners introduce city to first-ever show of its kind

'Pop' goes Atlanta

By MIKE FLEMING

AS GAY ARTIST ANDY WARHOL made his living in the 1950s as a window dresser and ad designer, his aesthetic ears pricked to the marketing boom of the era and its attention-getting graphics in primary colors.

Warhol, like a few British contemporaries just before him, found beauty in the images of the dawning age of consumerism and popular culture. Where laymen just saw shelves of products, comics and famous faces, the burgeoning "Pop" aficionados saw art.

Versions of Roy Lichtenstein's 'The Melody Haunts My Reverie,' Andy Warhol's 'Mao,' David Hockney's 'Cleanliness is Next to Godliness' and Jim Dine's 'Husband with His Left Arm on Fire' appear in the Trinity Gallery exhibit 'Pop Icons, Modern Masters.'

"Both Cubism and Pop Art arose from a rebellion against an accepted style," says Nicolas Pioch, of Web Museum Paris. "Cubists thought Post-Impressionist artists were too tame and limited, while Pop Artists thought the Abstract Expressionists pretentious and over-intense.

"Pop Art brought art back to the material realities of everyday life to popular culture, in which ordinary people derived most of their visual pleasure from television, magazines or comics," Pioch says.

Warhol, as famous for his witty quips as his art, may have said it best.

"Everything is beautiful. Pop is everything," he said in 1960.

And 42 years after Warhol first stacked detergent boxes in mountains and screened his now-infamous Campbell's soup can images, Alan Avery and Erin Wertenberger, the gay owners of Trinity Gallery in Buckhead, introduce "Pop Icons, Modern Masters," the largest collection of Pop Art ever assembled in Atlanta.

"No previous show in Atlanta has ever been this comprehensive when it comes to Pop," Avery says. "The High may have had a few pieces, and New York, L.A. and Chicago have all done it for years, but until now, I don't think Atlanta was ready for a show like this."

AVERY AND WERTENBERGER SPENT NINE years compiling "Pop Icons," including examples from a few of the biggest names in the genre, like Jim Dine, Roy Lichtenstein, gay artist David Hockney and Warhol.

And a gay sensibility is apparent in the selected works, Avery says.

"Gay men are among the biggest names in Pop," he says. "My fascination in [Pop] comes with the fact that Erin and I are gay men and appreciate a definite gay sensibility in these works."

One of the lead pieces in the exhibit is British artist Hockney's "Cleanliness is Next to Godliness," which depicts the backside of one of the artist's lovers in the shower.

"But beyond that, Warhol's images like Jackie O. and Marilyn were gay icons before they were Pop icons," Avery says. "And he did his series of sex parts and vivid depictions of male on male sex."

The local exhibit doesn't include those images, but one of Warhol's Mao Tse Tung lithographs is in the show. The piece, placed next to one of the artist's soup cans, was already sold to a local private collector for an undisclosed sum before the Oct. 11 "Pop Icons" opening.

"Even Lichtenstein, who was straight, uses a sense of homoeroticism in some of his work," Avery says. "Some of what he's known for are nude women together."

Please see **POP** on **Page 49**

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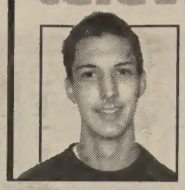


TNN's treatment of **gay pianist Liberace** and his former partner is just what you'd expect from the network behind Nascar.

Shame for 15

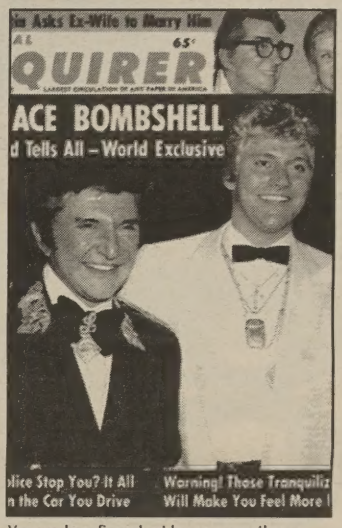
I REMEMBER, SOMETIME IN THE MID-'80s, retelling a rather tasteless joke about flamboyant and openly gay pianist Liberace — whom I had never even heard of at the time — and my mother scolding me and telling me never to repeat it.

The good news is that I never did. The bad news is that my mother never got a-hold of the people at the "new" TNN – The National Network (formerly The Nashville Network).

As part of this month's "Vegas Month" on TNN, there's an episode of the show "Fame for 15" devoted to Sin City. The normal premise of the show is to focus on people, groups, or events that were famous for a brief time.

The first half of this episode deals with a team of sky-diving Elvis impersonators — there's probably a punchline in there somewhere, but the program never found it — and the second half looks at Scott Thorson, who was Liberace's chauffer, bodyguard, and "companion" for five years.

Thorson would later sue Liberace for palimony when their relationship ended, effectively outing a man whose gay fans had pegged as family, but who had gone so far as to bring suit himself to preserve the denial of most of his middle-American female fan base, who thought of him as merely eccentric.



You may have figured out he was gayer than a goose, but most of **Liberace's** fans were clueless. TNN makes much hay over that irony and the pianist's ill-fated relationship with **Scott Thorson**, in a new segment of 'Fame for 15.'

MOST OF THE SEGMENT ABOUT Thorson was about how scandalous Liberace's "secret" is, how he could never have enough sex, or get enough of young boys. In this day and age, when Elton John and George Michael can come out without much fanfare — well, except for that part about being arrested for having sex in a public place — it's amazing that Liberace's orientation would still be fodder for so much yellow journalism.

When prurient interest about the star's sexual orientation isn't being played for shock value, the rest of the segment is spent making fun of him. Washed-up comedian Shecky Greene, who will never have a museum in Vegas like Liberace does, jokes about how people couldn't know he was gay.

He says, lisping, "I'm not gay, it's a speech impediment. And don't look at my high heels." And Charo, who shouldn't be an expert on anything except doing guest spots on the "Love Boat" and "Hollywood Squares," cracks jokes about Liberace's stereotypically obvious homosexuality.

Sure, at the end of the segment, Burt Kearns, who wrote a book about the tabloids, says that Thorson's suit against Liberace, and Liberace's continued success after it was revealed that he was gay, made it safe for stars in Hollywood to come out. But if you're Liberace, you're not safe from jokes, even if you are just as flamboyant as some modern straight pop stars like the artist formerly known as Prince.

Sure, Liberace never publicly stated that he was gay during his lifetime and he *was* gayer than a Judy Garland sing-along marathon, but that doesn't mean he should be subjected to ridicule even after his death about staying safely in the closet.

This segment draws into question TNN itself. Before the network got into the game of running "CSI" and "Star Trek" reruns and World Wrestling events and making itself into a clone of a Turner network, it used to cater to the country music crowd. Unlike other cable networks, like Bravo, A&E or MTV to name a few, TNN has never been very gay friendly, and this program isn't helping.

It's amazing that TNN, which is now a part of the MTV family headed by gay entertainment executive Brian Graden, is still allowed to use a man's sexual orientation and flamboyance to shock audiences and make jokes. Maybe TNN needs a meeting with my mother.

MORE INFO

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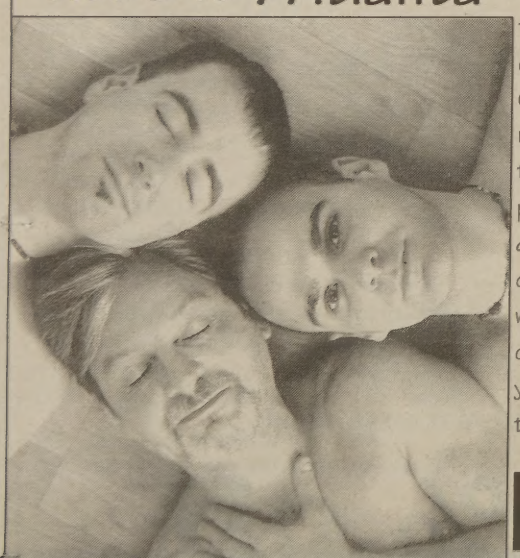

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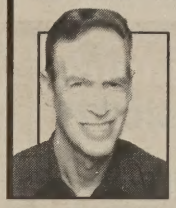

Sexy **Andy Garcia** never goes gay as he plays a gigolo to Jagger's pimp, but kids' sequel **'Pokemon' delivers male love.**

Call Mick 'madam'

ANDY GARCIA PLAYS A LATIN-American gigolo.

Or, rather, he's a loving family man who gets into prostitution to support his family, in "The Man from Elysian Fields."

Byron Tiller (Garcia) loves his wife (Julianna Margulies), but his career as a writer is at a dead end. Seductive Luther Fox (Mick Jagger) persuades Garcia to work for the Elysian Fields escort service, "just to get you over this temporary dry patch."

His first assignment is a perfect match. Andrea (Olivia Williams) is the trophy wife of Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Tobias Allcott (James Coburn), who is dying a slow death while trying to crank out a final novel.

He not only accepts his wife hiring men for sex, he's downright bubbly about it.

Garcia becomes Coburn's collaborator. But now that he can afford to move his family to a nicer home, he's never there to share it with them. Being an "homme de jour" requires a lot of night work.

It's a workaholic dad story with a new twist, and some parts of the outcome are predictable.

AN IMPORTANT POINT OF THE WRITers' collaboration is that the same story can be told anywhere, in this case switching the subject from ancient Roman slaves to modern American migrant workers to make it more commercial. The "microcosm" is interchangeable.

Although Elysian Fields could be otherwise, its clients happen to all be women. "Call me old-fashioned," Luther says in explanation.

Another escort, Nigel (Michael Des Barres) tells Byron, "All these rich bitches want is some companionship — and sex. We're like cocker spaniels with hard-ons."

To give Luther some texture, Anjelica Huston plays "the only client I still handle personally." She adds a bittersweet dimension to his sketchy story.

Phillip Jayson Lasker's sharp dialogue at times recalls Joseph L. Mankiewicz's "All About Eve," but he seems hesitant to bring his story to an end. Of course, no ending could please everyone.

"The Man from Elysian Fields" is completely satisfying for at least an hour before it starts slipping.

NO ONE OLD ENOUGH TO VERBALIZE their thoughts should care about "Pokemon," unless they have a financial interest in the phenomenon. But "Pokemon 4ever" features a gay love story with an intergenerational twist.

Besides the usual struggle for world domination, there's a story of "friendship" between two boys that becomes too obvious to ignore. One is the series' hero, Pokemon trainer Ash Ketchum. The other is Sam, a time traveler from 40 years ago who is protecting the Pokemon Celebi, "the Voice of the Forest."

As a male prostitute, **Andy Garcia** services rich women in 'The Man from Elysian Fields,' but the film foregoes the opportunity to include male customers.

There's no love-at-first-sight music when Ash and Sam meet, but the special connection between them is apparent. Later they have a romantic campfire scene surrounded by butterflies. Their final parting is a tearjerking moment on par with the end of "E.T.," if not "The Way We Were."

"Wherever you are — and whenever you are," Ash says, "we'll always be friends."

A final twist adds a NAMBLA spin to things.

The plot is so complicated that only a child can follow it. The story promotes peace and harmony but is punctuated by (G-rated) violence every five minutes to keep the kids interested.

That "Pokemon 4ever" is marginally better than the first three films won't matter to kids who want to see anything Pokemon or gays who track what behind-the-scenes queers are getting away with in children's movies.

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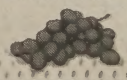

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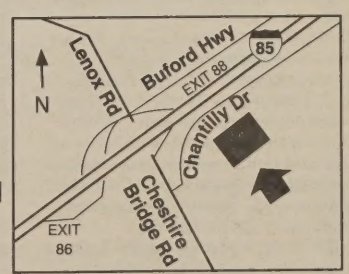

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music ARJAN TIMMERMANS

Lesbian speculation swirls around singer **Tracy Chapman**, but she seems content to just keep releasing **extremely good music.**

Chapman's closeted comfort

TRACY CHAPMAN'S ANDROGYNOUS appearance has been the source of much speculation.

The shy singer has been said to be queer, even though she has never publicly said. Nonetheless, Chapman has never made a secret of her relationships with women, which has only fueled the gossip.

Rumors aside, Chapman's subdued vibrato, compassionate lyrics and fervent support of women's rights, have made her a lesbian favorite since she first came onto the scene in 1988.

The Cleveland born native releases her sixth studio album "Let It Rain" this week. And like her previous work, the CD solely relies on acoustic guitar arrangements, allowing Chapman to prominently display her pure and gentle vocals.

Chapman studied anthropology at Massachusetts's Tufts University when she first hit the local coffee house circuit and street squares to share her self-written music with others.

A fellow student recognized her talent and aided her introduction to renowned producer David Kershenbaum and Electra Records, a label traditionally devoted to folk songwriting, fostering such female talent as Carly Simon, Joni Mitchell and Linda Ronstadt.

IN 1988, CHAPMAN RELEASED HER self-titled debut album "Tracy Chapman" and broke out of local obscurity when she was asked to perform at Nelson Mandela's 70th Birthday Tribute Concert at Wembley Stadium in London.

Just weeks after the appearance, her debut album and her first single "Fast Car" shot to the top of the American and European pop charts.

After five albums that garnered both commercial and critical success, the singer-songwriter has found a unique place in popular music.

Chapman's evocative folk rock carries a heavy dose of social and political commentary that is a rarity among chart-topping artists these days. The artist has openly shown her support of human rights and similar causes by performing at the Amnesty International Human Rights Now tour and many other benefit and tribute concerts.

On "Let It Rain," Chapman stays true to her acoustic folk style with songs that deliver the singer's tell-it-like-it-is perspectives on love, life and social matters. Together with producer John Parish, who previously worked with the Eels and PJ Harvey, she has been able to continue her uniquely identifiable sound, but also slightly move her creative boundaries by adding a very spiritual, almost gospel-like quality to the album.

On her latest CD 'Let it Rain,' venerable folk singer **Tracy Chapman** doesn't stray far from her warbles, but does leave room to explore a more gospel vibe.

"IN THE DARK," IS A PARTICULARLY haunting tune that is arguably the most atypical track on the album with its prayerful and melancholic vibe.

Chapman offers lyrical solace on "Let It Rain" and "Broken," when she intimately provides a spirited shimmer of light for human despair, singing on the album's title track, "Give me hope that help is coming when I need it most."

More upbeat is the album's first single "You're The One," a playful song that arguably hints at a lesbian love affair.

"Some say you are crazy," she croons. "Some low class kind of royalty. But I think you're cute and misunderstood. I am sure in my heart. Happy and free."

The artist explores her black roots by including prominent gospel elements on "Another Sun" and "Say Hallelujah." She appeals to more worldly themes on "Hard Wired," which is a socio-protest of media voyeurism and mass culture's deceitful streak.

As shown on her previous albums, Chapman seems comfortable in the closet and shies away from true biographical songwriting. Even though her songs appear personal, they remain masked reflections and observations of others, keeping listeners at a discrete distance.

This only proves the artist's magnificent storytelling talent. "Let It Rain" is a bundle of poetic moods and emotions that mark yet another highlight in the remarkable career of a remarkable singer.

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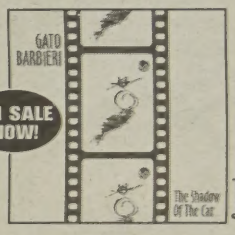

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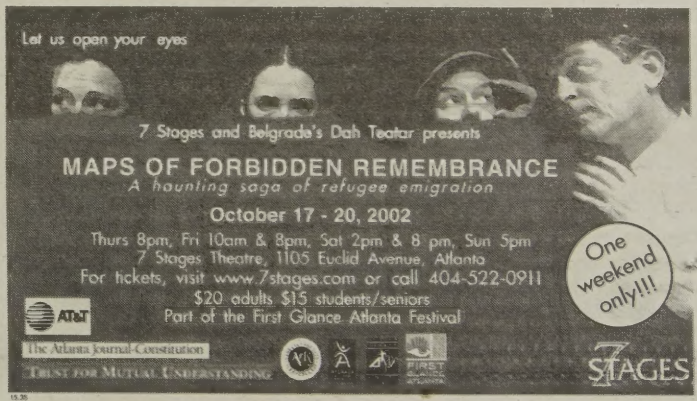
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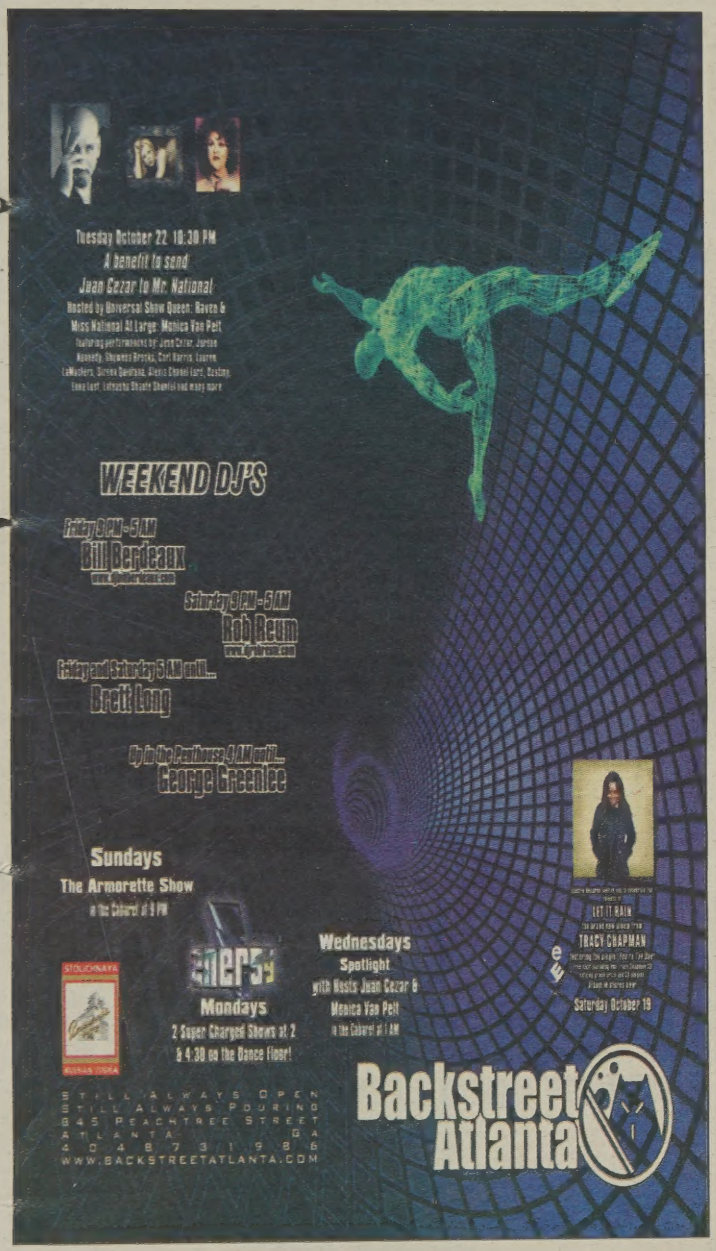

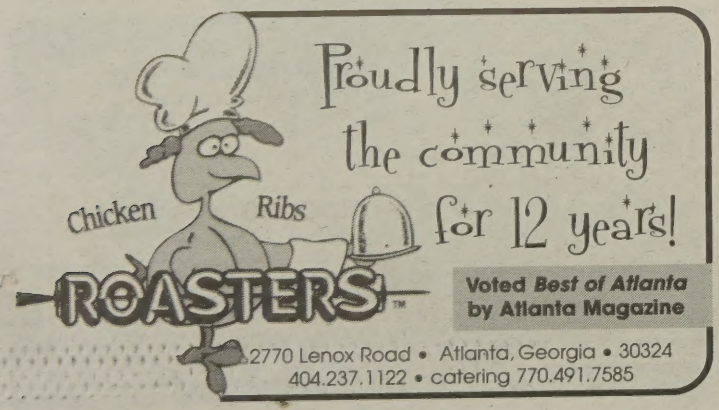

Shanghaied and surprised

Actor Vincent D'Onofrio goes after Guy's Richies now that he thinks **Madonna** and husband **stole movie idea**

Being trapped on a desert island is the least of Madonna's problems with her new film 'Swept Away.'

IT SEEMS THAT THE HORRIBLE reviews for "Swept Away," the new movie from **MADONNA** and her husband **GUY RITCHIE**, are the least of the couple's worries. Reuters reports that actor **VINCENT D'ONOFRIO**, who currently stars in the NBC hit "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," has sued the couple and Sony Pictures over the movie.

D'Onofrio alleges that Madonna stole the idea for the movie from him and proceeded to make it without giving him credit.

According to the lawsuit, D'Onofrio approached Lina Wertmuller, the writer-director behind the 1975 "Swept Away by an Unusual Destiny in the Blue Sea of August," which serves as source material for the new movie. Apparently the movie title was shortened more than the run of the "Justify My Love" video on MTV.

D'Onofrio pitched the idea to star him and Madonna, and both Madonna and Wertmuller were very excited about the project.

In early 2001, D'Onofrio learned that the project was going to proceed, but with unknown but super-hot actor Adriano Giannini, whose father Giancarlo originated the role as the leading man.

"[D'Onofrio] hired lawyers and has been trying to persuade Madonna to settle," said Morris Getzels, who is representing the actor. "But [the defendants] won't do anything for him."

On Oct. 8, an L.A. judge stifled D'Onofrio's request to stop the film from hitting the multiplexes unless D'Onofrio was listed as a producer on the film. Getzels said that he is still going to fight for D'Onfrio's name to run in the credits and for damages from the alleged afront.

Getzels has not said why D'Onofrio is so anxious to have his name associated with a movie that looks like it's going to turn out to be another abysmal Madonna vehicle, a la "Shanghai Surprise II."

Porn Again

Before this column goes any further, Dish would like to say that **TOM CRUISE** is not gay.

Well, to prove that he's not gay, he has dropped his lawsuits against erotic wrestling porn star **KYLE BRADFORD**, whose real name is Chad Slater, and his ex-wife Kristina Slater for alleging what millions of gay men the world over have dreamed of and gossiped about for years, that Cruise is gay.

In a surprise decision a few months ago, a judge threw out Cruise's suit against Kristina Slater and awarded her $27,000 in attorney's fees, but Cruise appealed the decision. World Entertainment News Network reports that the two have agreed to mutually walk away from the suit and leave everything unfinished.

"He finally saw that it might be in his best interest to leave my poor client alone," said Charles Fester, the attorney for Kristina Slater. "He agreed to go get a life and sue other people."

Kristina Slater retracted her statement that she caught her husband having sex with Cruise, but does say that her ex used to brag that he bagged Cruise. Dish wonders who would have been the "Top Gun?"

Demonic Diploma

The University of East Anglia in Norwich, England pleased many college-aged lesbians and **SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR** fans who would rather watch "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" than do their homework. The University is hosting a "Blood, Text and Fears" conference that will take an academic approach to the favorite show of many lesbians and gay men, TV Guide reports.

The conference, which runs Oct. 19-20, will include 63 lectures, including "The Spike/Buffy Relationship: Law, Morals, Rape and S&M; or You Always Hurt the One You Love," which boasts the only title longer than the original title of "Swept Away."

Sarah Michelle Gellar

Series creator **JOSS WHEDON**, who will not attend the conference, is most excited about a lecture linking the show's last season to Yeat's poem "The Second Coming."

"Last season is the bastard child that everyone's mean to," he said. "And for people to take it seriously and not just say, 'That season was depressing and the villains were nerds,' makes me feel good."

Well, since it is in England, will Giles and lesbian character Willow stop in to say hi?

Send comments, suggestions to Dish@sovo.com.

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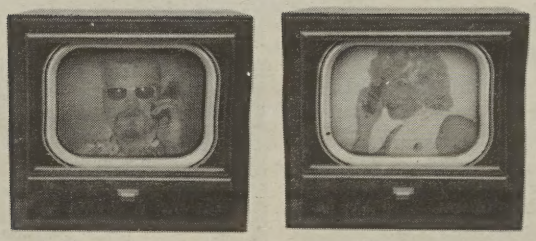

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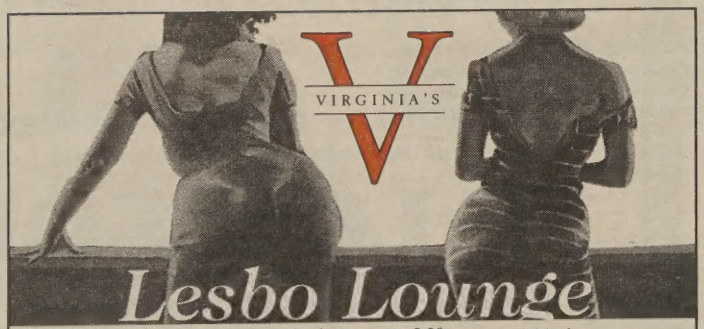

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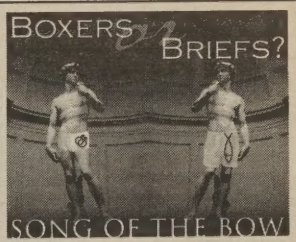

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Even diehard carnivores find delicious fare in **East Atlanta**, one **quality eatery** amidst otherwise Epicurean wasteland.

Vegan for a night

EAST ATLANTA VILLAGE MAY BE A happening scene, but it hasn't ever offered much in the way of eats.

The Heaping Bowl & Brew, the restaurant which more or less pioneered the area's commercial renaissance about five years ago, quickly went from mediocre to just plain terrible.

How it survives is a real puzzle. I don't know who's crazier, the people who run it with a "like, totally, whatever" attitude — or the people who pay to experience one.

There are a couple of cool bars with serviceable bar food, and a few other dining spots, but none of any particular distinction.

The best of the area was an Italian restaurant, Pastificio Cameli, which must have been just too good for the denizens of this locus of grunge. But now it has been reborn as a vegetarian place with a sort of vague and tentative name, Cameli's Vegan Vegetarian.

IT'S A CLEAN, AIRY HANDSOME ROOM with an exposed granite wall that has several squares of plaster cleverly left intact on which interesting art is mounted. There is a secluded raised deck in the rear.

The place is open continuously from lunch through dinner — and with a special late menu until 5 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, in recognition of the fact that East Atlanta attracts throngs of night crawlers.

The regular menu ranges from snacks to tacos, sandwiches and dinners, with a soup and salad bar. There's a short list of wines. The nine choices include some organic offerings from $18-34, and suggested pairings with the dinner choices — a nice touch.

Even confirmed carnivores should be able to find something to satisfy their palettes here. Some dishes are vegan — meaning they have no animal products — and some include dairy ingredients but no meat, thus vegetarian.

An excellent soup of spinach and sliced Portobello mushrooms, for instance, was rendered soothing and delicious with plenty of butter and cream. A snack of buffalo "nuggets" — think "wings" made of textured vegetable protein — comes with a choice of real bleu cheese dressing or vegan ranch.

On the salad bar, in addition to the standard raw vegetables and choice of greens in good condition, there are several prepared salads.

The best of these is outstanding: marinated collards. The chopped greens are lightly cooked to remain slightly crunchy, and macerated in a brightly acidic tomato and red pepper dressing.

AT LUNCH ONE DAY, I HAD THE grilled eggplant wrap sandwich. It had plenty of grilled flavor and garlic from the hummus spread on it. It was a little hard to bite through, though. The eggplant should have been either sliced thinner or cooked longer.

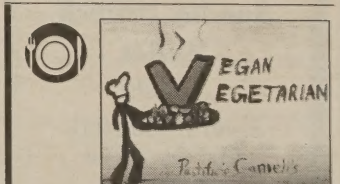
Returning for dinner, I sampled the excellent thick chili. It was assertively seasoned with chili and cumin and dotted with little cubes of tofu.

My entrée was the vegan lasagna. This dish was not so successful, made with "ricotta" of crumbled tofu, and with "ground meat" that is a vegan sausage — another of those textured vegetable protein concoctions. But these were not the problem.

It was just heavy and indelicate as a bomb. Too big, too salty, too much oregano and nothing for balance. It supposedly contained spinach, and I would have thought that a healthy amount of shirred spinach might have leavened the thing — but no.

But another entrée choice was wonderful. The grilled whole Portobello mushroom caps were charred and meaty as burgers. They sat on a bed of mashed potatoes and were napped with a rich brown rice-caramelized onion gravy. Alongside was a helping of well cooked mixed vegetables: zucchini, green beans and carrots.

If you are in East Atlanta and need to eat, Cameli's is definitely the place to go. And you can't use the excuse that it was 3 a.m. on Saturday, either.



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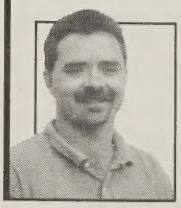


As **movies spark musicals** with mixed degrees of success, venerable local theater hosts **one of the winners.**

Movie makeover

FOR EVERY HIT MOVIE THAT BECOMES a theatrical success, like the current "Hairspray," another one bites the dust.

The stage version of "Saturday Night Fever," for instance, should have permanently deterred producers from testing the waters. The new musical "The Spitfire Grill," based on the movie of the same name, doesn't seem like a logical choice to make such a transfer.

But as presented by Horizon Theater, "Spitfire" is a plum surprise, an agreeable and low-key little musical.

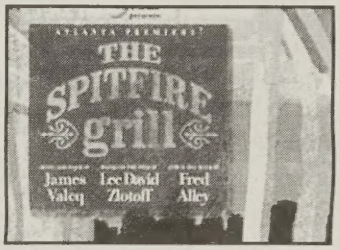
Following the film closely, the show's heroine is young Percy (Andrea Studley), who has just finished a five-year jail sentence.

Percy has no family, and when she sees a picture of rustic Gilead, Wis. in a magazine, she determines it's where she'll start a clean slate. The sheriff takes her to the titular grill, run by ornery Hannah (Judy Leavell), and finds her work.

Gilead is a small town, though, and the townsfolk — including snoop Effy (Valerie Payton) — make a beeline to find out the new girl's story.

Hannah herself has unsuccessfully had Spitfire on the market for a while. She has two children, the mean and deceitful Caleb (Randall Taylor), and Eli, who has disappeared after a fight with Hannah's late husband and is presumed dead.

Caleb's wife is Shelby (Kristin Markiton), a timid type who spends her time at home taking care of Caleb until she asserts herself and begins working at the Spitfire with Percy. The two come up with a plan: run a contest asking magazine readers to send money explaining why they'd like the Spitfire. The best answer wins the joint.



While this year's stage version of 'Saturday Night Fever' was a flop, Horizon Theatre Company's 'The Spitfire Grill' finds success.

As Percy and Shelby later run the diner while Hannah nurses a broken leg, "Something's Cooking at the Spitfire Grill" snappily shows their ability to take charge.

A few years back, Andrea Studley had a knockout season, but she's been relatively quiet since. As Percy, she has just the right blend of sincerity, naivete and hope. But she's no saint.

Her prison sentence — explained late in the show— is well-deserved, and Studley shows us that side as well. Though Shelby's role has less dimensions here, Kristin Markiton (formerly Kristin Yoke) gives her character gumption and backbone.

Each actress has a pleasant stage presence and an expressive voice, as does Leavell. But the men aren't as fortunate; their songs and personas generally just move the plot along.

"Spitfire" isn't likely to change perceptions of the world, but it's commendable, rustic entertainment, seasoned just right by director Heidi Cline.

WHILE IT HAD ITS LOYALISTS, THE movie version of "Spitfire" was neither a major commercial nor critical success. What vibrancy it had came via its leading ladies, Ellen Burstyn as Hannah, Marcia Gay Harden as Shelby and Alison Elliot as Percy.

The stage version retains a lot of the clunky, condescending tone — that life in the big city is less palatable than small town America where everyone knows your name and business.

But for starters, the musical does away with the movie's morbid ending. Here, the wrap-up is pure feel-good, but it's also more honest and way less melodramatic.

With music and lyrics by James Valcq and the late Fred Alley, "Spitfire" has some honest-to-goodness satisfying musical numbers. "A Ring Around the Moon," chronicling Percy's decision to move to Gilead and what she dreams about, is sung plaintively by Studley.

EARLIER IN THE YEAR, ART WITHIN presented a workshop version of Wayne Harrel's "Song of the Bow," dealing with the collusion of two men and one's sexual orientation as they portray actors playing Biblical characters in a play within the play.

It will be interesting to see how the show has changed in its full-fledged run, begun last week. The production has retained gay actor Larry Davis as the gay, HIV-positive Derrick.

MORE INFO

'The Spitfire Grill'
Through Dec. 29
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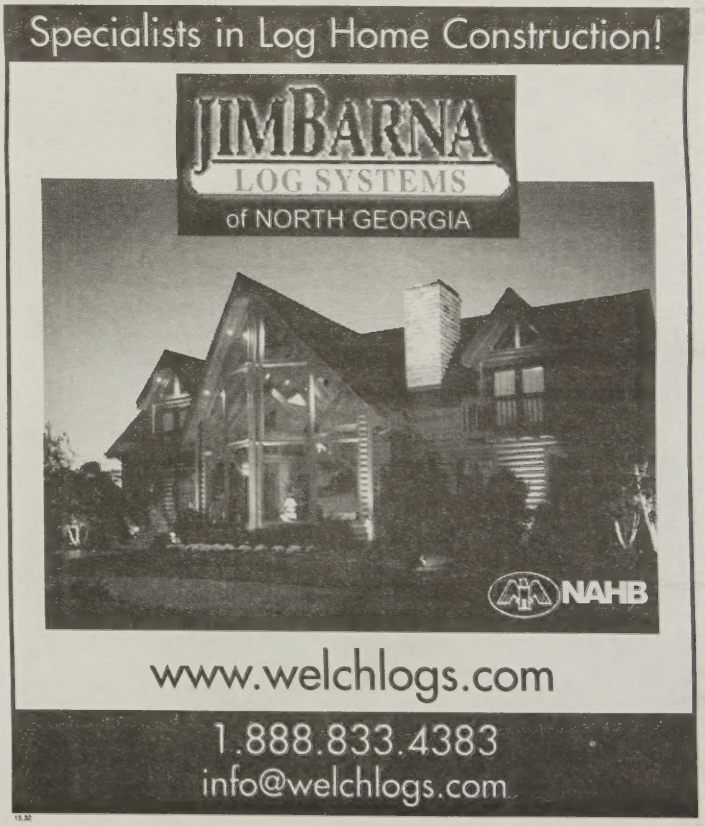

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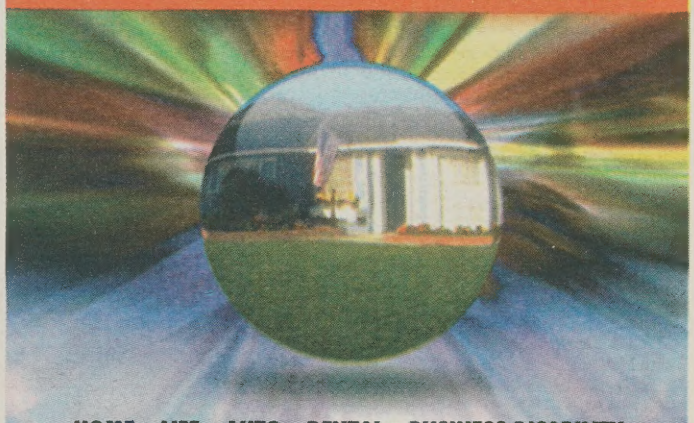

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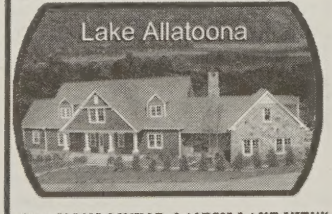

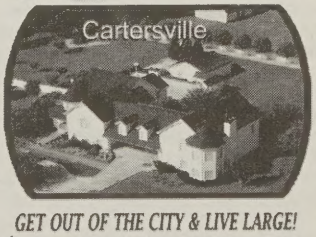

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Longtime gallery owners give back to gay causes

POP, continued from **Page 33**

Lichtenstein made a name for himself with large images taken from the "soap opera" comic strips of the '50s and '60s, and "Pop Icons" includes several good examples of his dot-matrix works, an idea he got from looking at newsprint under a magnifying glass.

Many of the Warhols and Lichtensteins in the show come directly from the artists' estates, which means that not only are they in great shape, they represent early numbers in series that are hard to find, according to Avery.

Contemporary artist Joan Miro's work is also included in the Trinity show, giving the exhibit the "Modern Masters" part of its name. Miro actually preceded Pop Art, but "predicted" it with a style before its time. A few smaller Miro pieces, full of vibrant color and geometric shapes, grace the front hall of the exhibit.

All of the works are for sale, starting with Miro's smaller works at $4,900. The general price range for pieces in "Pop Icons" is $20,000 to $25,000, and one of the Hockney pieces will go for "close to a million," Avery says.

But while the names in the show are decidedly bigtime, few of the pieces compiled live up to the reputation of either the artists or the Pop genre. Warhol's "Mao" is certainly sought after in the art world, as are a couple of the Lichtenstein lithographs and Hockney pieces. Any work by these artists will draw a pretty penny, but none of the works in this tiny exhibit are definitive.

And of some 30 artists that could be included in any show that calls itself "comprehensive," some of the gayest and greatest are missing. Keith Haring, Jasper Johns and Robert Rauchenberg are just a few of the gay artists who made notable, even monumental, marks on Pop Art and are conspicuously absent.

But that doesn't mean that aspiring art lovers should miss the show. Since Atlanta audiences have such little exposure to these artists, a chance to get up close to these works should not be missed.

"It's a monumental show," Avery says. "Anyone who passes an opportunity to see it will find themselves at a loss when it's gone."

"POP ICONS" IS THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY exhibit at Trinity. Avery and Wertenberger boast a success they built from humble beginnings.

"We built this business from the ground up, and I think it's something the gay community can be very proud of," Avery says. "And we continue to give back to the community."

That philanthropy includes thousands of dollars every year in both artwork and monetary donations to charitable causes. Trinity has supported such beneficiaries as Project Open Hand, Art Care, PALS, AID Atlanta, Haven House, Art Fest, Uncork a Cure, Grady Hospital's Pediatric AIDS Clinic, Positive Impact and Jerusalem House.

Avery and Wertenberger are both influential in art circles and brought the masterful artwork of such greats as Rembrandt, Lautrec and Chagall to Atlanta collectors.

But they continue to support lesser known gay artists as well. Their 2000 exhibit "Hairdos and Tractor Pulls" was a visual commentary on growing up gay in the South that exclusively included gay and lesbian artists. The blowout opening party benefited Atlanta Pride.

"We not only support gay artists," Avery says. "But we educate, expose and bring our heterosexual clients along for the ride to better understand the issues and concerns of the Atlanta gay and lesbian community."

Andy Warhol is the biggest American name in 'Pop Icons,' and he joins British Pop master David Hockney as the two gay artists with works in the show.

MORE INFO

'Pop Icons, Modern Masters'
Through Nov. 15
Trinity Gallery
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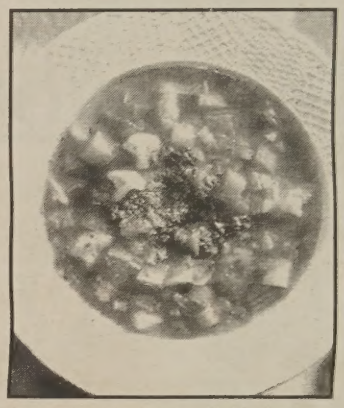
southern VOICE

food DAMON LEE FOWLER

As weather cools off, **cooking returns** along with steaming pots, warm ovens and **soul-nurturing** kettle of soup.

The good broth



A hearty soup takes the edge off cold autumn nights and soothes the mind and heart.

AS SHADOWS LENGTHEN, LIGHT becomes sharper and temperatures begin to moderate, autumn serves as a sharp reminder of endings. Summer's carefree vacation living is over, and another year is on the downhill slide to its close.

Images of harvest, falling leaves, shortened days and heavier clothes inevitably mingle with the images of death and burial, which is probably why Halloween is a fall holiday.

But, perhaps ironically, it is when the weather turns crisp that I start to come alive. Steamy "Body Heat" images of sexy, glistening William Hurt and Kathleen Turner notwithstanding, a slick, sticky sheen of sweat is uncomfortable and frankly, highly overrated as ornament.

So for me, autumn is the real season of rebirth. The suffocating heat is gone, and the air is cleaner, sharper and more breathable. It's a season for regrouping, ingathering and planning ahead.

Maybe that annual "fresh start" of a new school year, with its bundles of sharp, new pencils, crisp-edged blank notebooks and stiff new jeans and sneakers, left a deeper impression than the attending anxiety of "back to school."

Summer breeds an attitude of "oh, let's just get through it," while fall's crispness makes me want to take on the world.

The perfect homemade broth provides the base for soups as fancy as the cook's imagination.

PART AND PARCEL OF THE PLEASURE in autumn's renewal is cooking. The idea of steaming pots and warm ovens becomes not only bearable, but welcome once again, especially the old soup kettle.

The most universally satisfying, reassuring and soul-nurturing thing in any kitchen is a kettle of soup on the back of the stove, and autumn is the perfect weather for making and eating it.

Soup is easy, casual and a wonderful opportunity to improvise, but that doesn't mean you should be careless. Good soup is easier to make than bad soup, but the cook should still use discretion and care.

To make that good soup terrific, homemade broth is a must. The extra effort of making soup mostly from scratch shouldn't be depleted by adding store-bought broth that will only make the whole thing *taste as if came from a can.*

Sure, it's more trouble and takes more time. But when you raise that steaming mug to your lips and taste, you won't have to contemplate whether or not it is worth it. You'll know.

A good soup deserves a good base, and broth-making is the easiest and most satisfying cooking there is.

Basic Chicken Broth

Adapted from "Damon Lee Fowler's New Southern Kitchen." Makes about 4 quarts.

5 pounds chicken scraps: backs, bones, wing tips or a 5-pound stewing hen
2 large yellow onions: 1 peeled and thinly sliced, 1 peeled but left whole and stuck with 4 whole cloves (for veal, pork, or beef broth, use 3 onions — 2 sliced)
1 large carrot, peeled and thickly sliced (2 for chicken broth)
1 large rib celery, including leafy tops (2 for chicken broth)
1 large leek, split, thoroughly washed, and sliced (including the green top)
3 to 4 large cloves garlic, lightly crushed and peeled but left whole
1 quarter-sized slices fresh ginger root (2 for chicken broth)
1 large sprig parsley (at least 3 inches of leafy stalk)
2 large sprigs fresh thyme (at least 3 inches long), or 1 teaspoon dried thyme tied up in a cheesecloth or stainless tea ball
2 bay leaves 8 whole black peppercorns
5 quarts water
Salt

Put ingredients into an 8-quart kettle, allowing a small handful of salt. Heat on low, cover loosely and bring slowly to a simmer. This could take 30 to 45 minutes.

Adjust heat so that liquid simmers slowly, bubbles not quite breaking the surface. With lid askew, simmer for two hours. Three or four hours will only improve it. Do not interrupt the simmer at any point.

Turn off heat and let settle 30 minutes. Strain carefully through a wire mesh strainer and cool completely. Cover and refrigerate until broth is cold and fat is congealed. Lift off and discard fat. Keeps for up to a week refrigerated, or up to 6 months if frozen in small portions.

Terrific Chicken Soup

To welcome the cool weather, warm the nights, soothe the season's first sniffles or just make you feel good.

Add two 2 quarts simmering broth to:
1 medium onion, peeled and chopped
2 ribs celery, strung and chopped
2 carrots, peeled and chopped
1/4 cup rice or 1/2 cup fine egg noodles

Simmer until vegetables and noodles are tender, then add 1 cup diced cooked chicken leftover from making broth. Heat through, taste and adjust seasonings, and add chopped parsley to taste.

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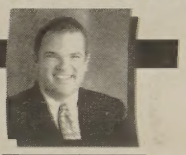
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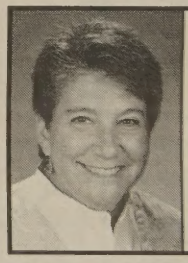

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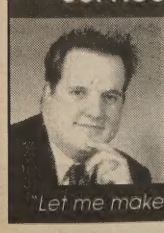

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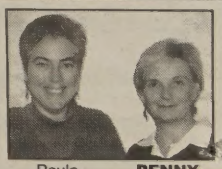

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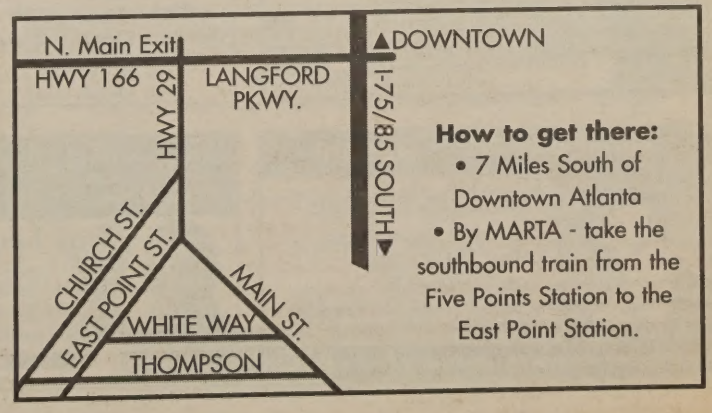

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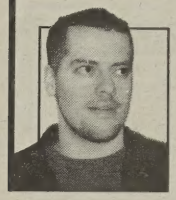


With a well-establish reputation for liberalism, **Portland, Ore.** offers gays unsurpassed eateries and nightlife.

Noshing and nightclubbing

FOR A WHILE, IT SEEMED AS though Portland, Ore., could truly be called one of the nation's most underrated cities. But the cat's out of the bag.

More than a few visitors have come to appreciate the "Rose City" for its progressive social climate, which has helped to cultivate a dynamic lesbian and gay scene. Opportunities abound to meet and mingle with local queers, from groovy cafes to pulsing dance clubs.

Portland enjoys a tremendous variety of superb restaurants, and it's awfully hard to spend big bucks at even the hottest hangouts.

A stylish wine bar with a sense of humor, gay-owned Crush employs a stable of sexy, toga-clad servers who glide about the intimate dining area with trays of well-chosen local and international vintages and plates of sophisticated snacks and tapas. Some weekends, you'll even find a few drag queens pouring the vino.

Gay-popular Saucebox is the perfect place to people-watch while downing martinis and noshing on terrific Pan-Asian cooking.

HOBO'S HAS LONG BEEN THE CITY'S most upscale gay restaurant. The restaurant, which is on the edge of Chinatown, is also great for drinks and listening to live piano cabaret.

Gay meets grunge at the 24-hour Roxy, a study in Formica and kitsch. On any night, you'll see big hair, pierced extremities, and lotsa muscle, leather, rubber, drag and any other outre fashion imaginable.

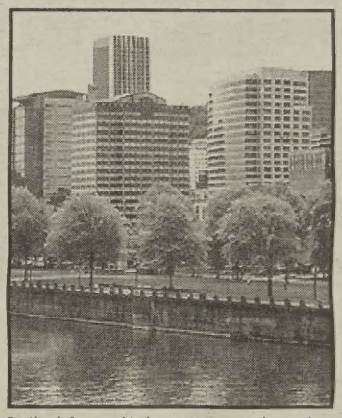
A low-keyed lesbian favorite in the gentrified Hawthorne District, Dingo's turns out tasty Mexican fare and thirst-quenching margaritas. Hawthorne loyalists also favor the Daydream Cafe for its organic coffees and espresso and great breakfast and lunch fare.

The airy Old Wives' Tales specializes in healthful, affordable food and is a favorite among dykes with tykes.

PORTLAND'S GAY NIGHTLIFE CAN seem paradoxical. On the one hand, this is an easy-going city, and many of its bars attract a mellow, amiable bunch. On the other hand, the city's cruisy, high-energy clubs can get very intense, drawing scads of serious partyers.

A good example is Embers, which draws men and women to familiar club anthems. Casual dress prevails over flashy club gear, although you'll see plenty of both.

The Egyptian Club is the coolest of Portland's lesbian clubs, with strippers some nights and consistently great dance music every night. It's a slick place that tends to draw a mostly under-35 set.



Portland, Ore. used to be a gay mecca unknown to the masses, but the cat is now out of the bag. (Photo by Andrew Collins)

Choices, which also draws plenty of guys, is a chummy lesbian pub with a rockin' jukebox, a small dance floor, darts and live salsa music on weekends. Nearby Starky's has a restaurant that serves particularly good pub fare. Lesbians, gays, and local breeders mix at this bar known for friendly service and laid-back ambience.

Boxx's and the Brig, which share the same building, are arguably gay Portland's favorite overall hangouts. Boxx is a fairly typical stand-and-model video bar, and a hallway leads to the Brig, which has the dance floor. There is plenty of spiked hair, shaved heads and naval rings.

Klub Z draws a very young crowd. This cavernous space in the heart of all things gay is sort of a cross between a rave and a queer high-school dance. You don't have to be a teenager to appreciate it, but you may feel a bit out of place if you're much past 25 or 30.

Darcelle XV is famous for its elaborate Las Vegas-style drag revues, and on nights when the gals aren't dressing up, male strippers dress down. Nearby C. C. Slaughter's is a sizable gay restaurant and dance club that's popular for country-western line-dancing on some nights, and standard pop-dance music on others.

Portland has an active leather scene, and the Eagle PDX is where you'll find the most devoted followers. The super-cruisy Silverado is a veritable den of iniquity — or at least of very friendly strippers. A low counter with bar stools encircles the small stage.

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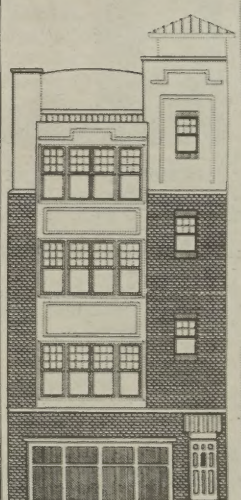

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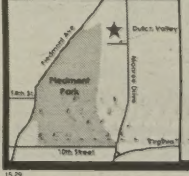

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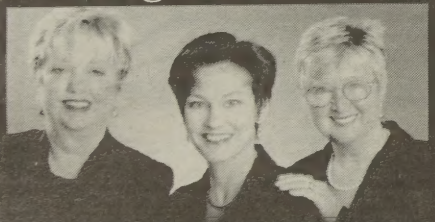

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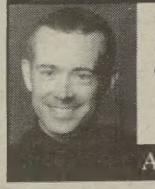

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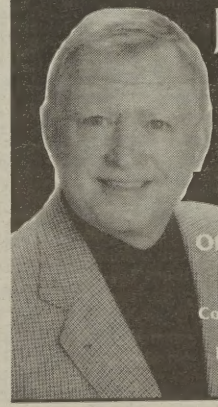

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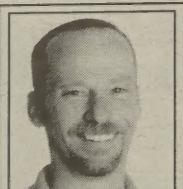

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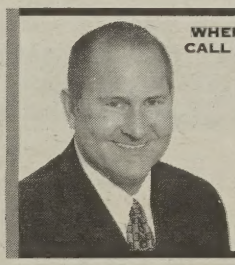

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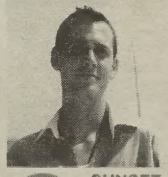

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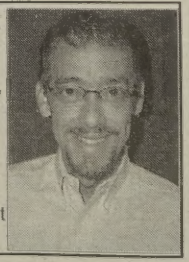

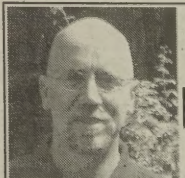
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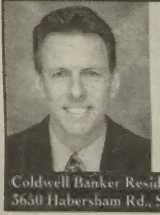
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Lencoler Clinical Care provides "FREE" HIV testing with immediate results. Tuesdays: 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m. & Thursdays: 8:00a.m.-5:00p.m. Located at 550 Peachtree St., Suite 1010. Call for a confidential appointment, 404-249-9244.

AIDS 101 Awareness & Action Seminar: a great opportunity for anyone to learn about HIV/AIDS. Includes over 20 breakout sessions, giving you choice in your curriculum. CEU approved. Saturday, October 26th, 8:30am-5:00pm @ The Latin American Association. Available in English and Spanish. Call AID Atlanta @ 404-870-7742 for more info.

Home But Not Alone- Enjoy reduced rent and comfortable housing. Fast placements, homes now available! No waiting list. Share with a person living with HIV. Call Rita at 770-395-2625 or call Susan at 770-395-2546.

The Atlanta Harm Reduction Center is a grassroots street outreach program whose focus is to stop the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, by providing information, condoms, referrals, and more to the people who are underserved in our communities. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Please donate some of your time and energy. For more info write to: A.H.R.C. 1020 Dekalb Ave NE suite 17, Atlanta, Ga 30307, or call 404-526-9222. AHRAATLANTA@JUNO.COM

NATIONAL AIDS EDUCATION & SERVICES for MINORITIES will be facilitating a support group for men who are HIV positive and have AIDS. Every Wednesday 6pm til 7:30pm, 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr, suite 602 404-753-2900 ext 17.

Our Common Welfare will provide Free HIV testing & counseling. Testing using oral fluids & urine tests; daily from 9am-7pm earlier by appt. & Saturday 9am-1pm. Offices are located at 4329 Memorial Dr, Suite H, Decatur, [next to Dekalb Co. jail]. Call for details: 404-296-3090.

Announcements

AID GWINNETT 5th Annual Event!

DINNER THEATER & SILENT AUCTION
Saturday, Nov. 2 at 7:00 PM
Gwinnett Cultural & Civic Center
Ticket Cost Includes:
Wonderful Dining, Play, Silent Auction, Parking, Cash Bar
Individual $50 / Couple $90
To Order Tickets Call:
770-962-8396 ext 34
Visa/MC/Checks

St. Michael the Defender

An independent Catholic Community of the Catholic Apostolic Church in North America. Sunday Mass 10:00am at 159 Ralph McGill Blvd. Across from the Civic Center, free parking! Reverend Patrick W. Batuyong, Pastor. www.stmichaelatlanta.org "ALL ARE WELCOME" 404-254-9931.

WRITER LOOKING FOR STORIES of local heroes/people who have made a difference to another individual, their city or their community. Contact Paul Dunn; 3030 McKinney Ave.; Dallas, TX, 75204 or contact me via email: PD200@aol.com

A COMMON BOND is a social group for gay, former &/or current JW's, offering friendship and an understanding environment. For details about the next gathering of the Atlanta Chapter - 770-493-3188 or e-mail: micek38@yahoo.com

The Atlanta Legal Aid Society's Health Law Unit - offers free legal services to low-income persons living with life-threatening illnesses such as HIV/AIDS, cancer and ALS; with a wide range of legal problems - employment discrimination, public benefits, debt relief, insurance, access to health care, housing, family issues, and simple wills and advance directives. Income guidelines do apply. We DO NOT offer legal services for criminal matters. Please call 404-614-3969 for more information.

WEST GEORGIA GAY & LESBIAN

RESOURCE CENTER- A cyberspace resource center serving the W.Ga. gay & lesbian community. Includes a bulletin board, chat room, personals, and local, regional and national resource links. http://www.truthtree.com/westga

MIDTOWN SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

CONSECRATION STATEMENT- Midtown Spiritual Community is consecrated to being a safe, healing place in which you will find love & acceptance just as you are. A creative, alive place, in which you will be challenged to become all you can be, by realizing all that you are, as you travel your spiritual path. Together, we are creating heaven on earth. 11am Sunday Celebration Service at Academy of Medicine, 875 W.Peachtree St.NW, Atlanta. 404-874-1937

MEDITATION

Free classes to be taught offering meditation in the style of P. Yoganada and Roy Eugene Davis by a student of 30 years training. In Buckhead. Please call Ken Payne 404-237-6507. NO CHARGE EVER.

Body Waxing

Body Waxing

Look younger, enhance intimacy and feel better about baring your back, (even your butt). Remove unwanted hair by waxing. Trims also available. www.massageproatl.com Ken 404-371-4424.

Business/Services

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We will happily file any INCORPORATION for $300. Call now for details! 404-605-0620.

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Residential Maid Service. * Licensed * Bonded * Insured * The Clear, Confident Professional Choice. PROmaid. 404-475-6243. www.PROmaid.net

A MOTHER & DAUGHTER TEAM- "We clean your business/home like we clean our own!" For a free estimate call 404-243-4203.

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www.weddingbellz.com

Beautiful Victorian chapel/retreat center, accepting reservations for commitment ceremonies, weddings, renew vows. Overnight accommodations w/breakfast. Singles, couples, small groups. 30 minutes North of Perimeter. Smoke-free adult environment. Call 678-947-5002. e:mail Meshad@aol.com.

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EAGLE DJ RANDY

Atlanta Eagle DJ, Randy is Now Available to Entertain at Your Next Party or Function. Call for Rates. 770-314-8465.

Employment • Full

Respect Your Elders

Serve the Elderly. Certification not required. Flexible P/T hours providing non-medical companionship & home care. HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE. Call Today: 770-392-1070.

Universal Gear - premiere leader in men's fashion, has P/T & F/T openings at their new Atlanta location. Seeking: enthusiastic people interested in fashion who understand "outstanding customer service." We offer: $7-$9/hr. + great employee discounts + fun atmosphere. Call Patrick: 404-733-6667 for more info.

Woofs On Piedmont - Atlanta's New Gay Sports Bar, Now Accepting Applications for Bartenders, Barbacks, Waiters, & Short-Order Cooks. FT/PT. Apply in Person: 2425 Piedmont Rd / Mon.-Fri./1PM-6PM.

PASTRY CHEF - Part Time - Leading Catering Company Seeks Very Experienced Person for Pastry & Desserts. Must Have Pride in Your Work! For Interview, Call 404-352-0611; Fax Resume to: 404-352-2119.

Rapidly Growing Courier Co.

Great income driving for Gay-owned Courier Company. Full/Part time, flexible hours. Must own reliable transportation. Call Dan 404-627-8011.

STYLUS SALON

Beautiful, Trendy, Midtown Salon Seeking Licensed Stylists for Booth Rent. Please email resume: mar_rose@att.net or call Melissa: 404-580-6885.

HELP WANTED! EXCELLENT CAREER & INCOME OPPORTUNITY! Atlanta's Largest & Oldest Gay Owned Insurance Agency is now interviewing for top quality individuals with great personality. Must be self-motivated. Unlike many professions, an insurance career is recession proof. We do well during hard times. If you have the ability to talk to people, you can earn a comfortable income. Our agency has served the gay & lesbian community for the past 30 years & due to our growth, we are desperately seeking experienced agents or will train the right persons. Call Bob Meeks for an appointment at 404-873-4601.

Holiday Drivers Needed

NEED SUV's, TRUCKS W/COVERS, VANS for Holiday Delivery. Make great money working just one day. Knowledge of city helpful. Call Dan: 404-627-8011.

The Gay Pages, Inc. is hiring Appointment Setters. No Selling. Fun atmosphere. $300-$500 week. Hourly + commission + daily cash bonuses. Midtown Location. Call Tom at 404-892-6454 ext. 221.

Hair Salon - New Salon in Inman Park is seeking talented & interested stylists for full & part time positions. For information call David @ Dada Salon 404-402-4565.

Employment • Part

Busy professional seeks PT household helper - cleaning, organizing, etc. Prefer Guy willing to work nude. $20/hr. 404-288-6830.

OUTWRITE BOOKS

Atlanta's gay & Lesbian Bookstore & Coffeehouse seeks enthusiastic, experienced part-time retail salespeople with excellent customer service skills. Great atmosphere, great products. Apply in Person @ 991 Piedmont Ave. 9AM-11PM 7 Days.

Join the Black Tie Team

Now hiring for P/T servers, supervisors, captains & bartenders. Upscale clientele, flexible schedules & diverse work locations. A great second job for students, actors, empty nesters, models or flight attendants. Pursue your interests and work when you want to. Reliable transportation required. More information at 770-234-0707, e-mail blacktie@mindspring.com

Employment • Seeking

FACTOTUM For Older Gentleman - Mature Couple Have B.A. 20 + Yrs. as Live In. Honest, Loyal. 404-875-0047 Ext 134 / 404-213-3135-Cell.

Furniture

WHOLESALE BEDDING! - New DOUBLE QUILTED Mattress Sets. King-$195.00 / Queens-$165.00 / Pillow Tops Available (in Plastic). Warranties. 404-684-9969.

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He's So Handy!

Handyman Services and Renovation. Specializing in Tile, Painting, Carpentry, Plumbing & Electrical. Serving our community for over 5 years! Call Shawn McGuire 404-408-7748.

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COLON HEALTH

To Acheive Ultimate Health, Don't Neglect Cleansing of the Colon. Rid Yourself of Disease Causing Toxins that Reside in the Colon. Administered by Experienced Male R.N. Available to Men & Women. Will @ 404-499-2069.

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Chiropractic Adjustments & Energy Work. Help for Difficult Health Problems. Call Dr. Morgan at 770-977-8785.

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Presents DENI, - formerly of Hairanoia. 2369 Lawrenceville Hwy. 770-339-7600. Barber/Stylist/Color/Perms.

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Interior & Exterior Painting from Basic to Faux Finishing Including Kitchen Cabinets, also Decorating Services. Make Use of What You Already Have! 404-822-7884, Jeff.

OAKVIEW LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION designs and installs custom fences and decks, unique stone and brickwork, including retaining walls and patios, and one-of-a kind landscapes. Excellent references available. Phone 404-966-8292 for an estimate. www.oakview-fencing.com

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Contracting, home repair, renovation, decking and painting. Licensed/Bonded. 404-402-5577, or email: HUSBNDforADAY@aol.com

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The Community's Answer to
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(All Preexisting Conditions)
ABSOLUTE BEST RATES!!!
Also Critical Illness Insurance
Pays 100% Benefit on Diagnosis of
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404-745-9962

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Lawn Mowing - Just Bought a New Home? Yard Need Cleaning? Summer Clean-Up Services. Call Dale: 770-496-1537 or 770-757-6909.

Massage Therapy

MIDTOWN RELIEF

Full body massage by licensed therapist. William 404-223-6747.

STYLUS SALON

SPECIAL! $50/hr. for First Time Clients $90/1.5 hrs. Available Tuesday/Wednesday & Saturday. Call for an Appointment, 404-815-0093.

REAL BODYWORK

Tall, Dark, Handsome Therapist Gives Effective Swedish, Deep Tissue Therapeutic & Full Body Sensual Massage. Incalls, LSP Location. Outcalls to Midtown, Buckhead, Downtown Only. 8+ years Experience. Certified. Jay 404-457-9005.

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Handsome, hairy CMT honors all types of men with therapeutic & erotic massage. Private studio with shower. Shallowford Access Rd/I-85. VISA/MC/AMEX. John 770-455-0212.

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Latino, 9 Years Experience, 7-Techniques, Vinings/Smyrna Area. Legitimate Therapy Sessions. 1.5 Hrs. 1st timers: In $39.00, Out $78.00 / Cell: 404-275-1326.

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Therapeurotic Full-Body, Full Hour Massage w/Table. Experience the muscle PLUS! 5'9", 180lbs, Muscular. Friendly & Personable service. Reasonable Rates 7-Days/week. CHAD 678-427-2420.

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Discrete, Smooth Young Therapist Provides Eccentric, Relaxing Swedish, Deep Tissue, Caring Massage, Distinguished, Novices Welcomed, Honored, In/Out, 24/7, John 404-992-8336.

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Chiropractic student offers professional, healing body-work. Therapeutic deep tissue, connective tissue, energy balancing & stretching. Glenn 770-420-2117.

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Full body massage by a mature masculine man with strong and gentle hands to make you feel good from head to toe. By Dwight - Certified Massage Therapist. 404-315-1551. Del4watr@aol.com.

EXPERIENCE

A relaxing, full-body massage, professionally trained experienced therapist. Combining Swedish, shiatsu, & reflexology for a great massage. Located in Decatur. In/out great rates. Mike 770-309-4490

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Body Work that goes beyond a rub! Full body service for Men. Professionally trained (certified) therapist offering Swedish-Deep Tissue to Sensual Sessions. www.massageproatl.com Ken 404-371-4424.

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Full body massage - Parasympathetic, Deep Tissue, Sports, Zen Touch, Swedish, & much more, with a 1000 hours fit HHP/CMT. Discreet, Novices Welcome. Hotels, In/Out, Credit cards. Call Vince 404-870-0791.

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22 Years Professional Experience.
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LEADS GUARANTEED!

Work from Home, Full Broker Support. License Required. 100% Program Available Also. Interview: Mr. Hyre 678-508-2802. email: mhyre@hotmail.com

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HUGE APTS

Convenient to Midtown, Lenox & Buckhead. 1X1 900sq.ft. from $697/mo. 2X2 W/Dconn. 1150sq.ft. from $825/mo. 3X2 W/Dconn. 1400sq.ft. rom $916/mo. Pet Friendly! Diverse Community! PRICES GOOD FOR APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY 10/30/02. CALL 404-321-1255.

DECATUR HOUSE/APARTMENT - Near Avondale MARTA/Agnes Scott. Wooded Yard, Deck, Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Cooks Kitchen! Screened Porch, Non-Smoking Premises, Pets O.K. 404-343-1337.

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1BR's $579/mo.-W/D Incl.
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New 2BR/2BA PALACE $1995/mo.
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1). 2BR/2BA Duplex w/Office in Va. Highland/Piedmont Park Area. Fireplace, Hardwoods, High Ceilings. $1400/mo.

2). Large 1-Bedroom (possibly 2) w/Bath Duplex in Va. Highland/Piedmont Park Area. Fireplace, Hardwoods, High Ceilings. $1000/mo. Call 404-888-0772.

Real Estate For Rent-APTS.

MIDTOWN - 770 MYRTLE STREET - 1BR/1BA, Washer/Dryer in Unit, On Site Parking, $600/mo. 404-355-9783.

MIDTOWN

Walk to Park, MARTA, Restaurants, Bars! 1-Bedroom w/Balcony, Outside Entrance in Private Home. Includes all Utilities, Sat TV, Secluded Pool. $950/mo. No Pets/Drugs/Smoking. 404-892-4561.

DECATUR

Two Great Decatur Locations! One, Two & Three Bedroom Apartments - Move In Special! 1/2 Off First Months Rent. Pets O.K. www.atlapts.com Call: 404-377-8188.

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MIDTOWN

MAYFAIR & OTHER PRESTIGIOUS LOCATIONS! Studios, 1-Bedrooms, 2-Bedrooms, Penthouses!
Available Now!
Many Amenities.
Cooper BrownRE 404-371-1975
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southern voice

Classified Order Form

Fax: 404-876-2709
Phone: 404-876-1819 ext. 15

TO PLACE AN AD: IN PERSON: Bring completed order form with payment to *Southern Voice* (M-F, 9-6 pm) 1075 Zonolite Rd., Ste. 1-D, Atlanta. **BY MAIL:** Mail completed order form with payment to *Southern Voice* Classifieds, 1075 Zonolite Rd, Ste. 1D, Atlanta, GA 30306. **BY PHONE:** Call in with completed order form to 404-876-1819 ext. 15. **BY FAX:** Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds 404-876-2709. **BY E-MAIL:** classifieds@sovo.com. **AD POLICY:** *Southern Voice* reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting *Southern Voice* standards. No refunds for early cancellation. Misprints: *Southern Voice* is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

DEADLINE FOR AD SUBMISSION • ATLANTA: MONDAY AT 12 NOON

1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY

FREE: Call for guidelines
___ HIV Services & Education
___ Volunteers

INDIVIDUAL RATE $7:
___ Announcements
___ Auditions
___ Employment–Seeking
___ Pets–Free or Lost & Found
___ Roommates

BUSINESS RATE $15:
___ Autos
___ Business
___ Employment–Full Time
___ Employment–Part Time
___ Finance
___ Health
___ Legal
___ Massage Therapy
___ Merchandise
___ Pets–For Sale, Training
___ Publications
___ Real Estate–For Rent
___ Real Estate–For Sale
___ Travel

Call 404-876-1819 ext. 15 for other categories

2 WRITE YOUR AD

Please print clearly

CATEGORY:_____ **# OF ISSUES:** _____

Giant Headline ($5/week)–Not to exceed 14 characters and spaces

TEXT: _____

3 TOTAL YOUR COST

INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS
Up to 20 words for $7.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.

Up to 20 words: 7.00
Additional words _____ x 50¢: _____
Giant headline: 5.00 (per week)
Subtotal: _____ x _____ # of issues
Total: $_____

BUSINESS RATE ADS
Up to 20 words for $15.00 per week. Additional words at $1.00 each per week.

Up to 20 words: 15.00
Additional words _____ x $1.00: _____
Giant headline: 5.00 (per week)
Subtotal: _____ x _____ # of issues
Total: $_____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State_____ Zip_____
Phone _____
Check Enclosed _____ Charge to my ❑ AMEX ❑ MC ❑ VISA
Card #_____ Exp.____/____

MIDTOWN

Windsor Over Peachtree
Studio: $850/mo. 1-Left
1 Bedrooms Starting at $950/mo.
3 Bedroom: $1500/mo. 1-Left
1 Year Lease/Security Deposit Req'd
24-Hr Courtesy Guards
Fitness Center, Pool, Gated Parking
Call 404-881-6654.

Beautifully Decorated 2-Bedroom, 1-Bath Condo 3 Blocks from Decatur Square! Lease/Purchase a Possibility. Washer/Dryer Included. $1,000/mo. 404-373-1010.

Real Estate For Rent-House

ORMEWOOD PARK

3BR/2BA, Master Bath, w/Walk-in Closet, Garden Tub, Big Back Yard, W/D Included. Pets O.K. Available December. Easy Drive to Downtown/Emory. $1250/mo. Contact Amy 404-774-4320.

DECATUR

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EDGEWOOD - Rent or Lease Option - Pine Paneled Cottage between L5P & East Atlanta - Modest 2BR/1BA w/Yard & Off-Street Parking. $675/mo. 404-452-5656.

LaVista/Ch-Br

Adorable, Cared-for 2BR/1BA Home w/LivingRoom, DiningRoom, Eat-in Kitchen, Small Office, Hardwoods, CHA, Screened Porch, Deck, Dishwasher, Washer/Dryer, Fenced Yard. Non-smokers. Pets o.k. $1,350/mo. 404-733-5443.

MIDTOWN/MORNINGSIDE, 2BR/1BA, guest house, best location, quiet and secure, CHA, W/D, DW, hardwoods, $1100/mo. + dep. 404-281-5864.

*KIRKWOOD: Beautiful 2-Story. One-year-old Victorian house on Hosea Williams Dr. 3BR/2.5BA, Master suite w/walk-in closets & jacuzzi. DiningRoom, large kitchen, w/center island. Huge LivingRoom w/fireplace. Security system, fenced yard, 2-car off-street parking. $1495/mo. + utilities. 404-918-1613.

Grant Park House 2-Bedrooms, LivingRoom, DiningRoom, Hardwood Floors. W/D Provided. CHA. Front Porch & Large Yard. Great for Roommates or Couple. Quiet, Gay-friendly street. Just Painted & Avail. for Immediate Occupancy. $930/mo. Cats ok. Please Call 404-624-1548.

SYLVAN HILLS/WEST END: Fabulous 3-bedroom 1910 renovated house. Hardwood floors, 4-fireplaces, separate dining room, front & back yard, front porch, back deck, bonus room. C/H/A, W/D. $1008/mo. Call Tom, 404-229-6945.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Between Grant Park & East Atlanta Village. 2BR/1BA new kitchen, off-street parking, CHA, Fenced-in back yard. Front porch w/Downtown skyline view. $850/mo. + security deposit. 404-624-1030.

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GRANT PARK HOUSE
1024 Portland Ave - 30316
Lg. Fenced Yard / FP
2BR/1BA-W/D-$995/mo.
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www.PrideRealty.com

GWINNETT/BROOKWOOD - 4BR/2.5BA, 2-Car Garage, Fireplace, Full Basement. Nice Home in Quiet Neighborhood with View of River. Fall Special $1195/mo. 770-736-9198.

BRIARCLIFF/NORTHLAKE - 10 min. Midtown. 3BR/2BA, Ref./W.D. Pd Util/Cable. No Pets/Smoke. 1 yr. lease. $1200/mo. Avail. Oct. 1st. Wayne 404-633-7850.

Real Estate For Rent-Lofts

MANHATTAN STYLE LOFT Midtown/Poncey-Highland. 2BR/2.5BA. Copenhill by Park. Skyline View. 14' Windows. Great Space. Must See! $1750/mo. (Lease to Buy Option). Call 404-375-8565.

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A ROOMMATE & HOUSING REFERRAL SERVICE
$29.99 SPECIAL!
FOR ALL OF OUR SERVICES!
advertising • personality matching • lifestyle matching
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Let us put our 12 years of experience to work for you... and your new roommate.
For an appointment contact Allayne
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Real Estate For Sale

INTOWN/N'LAKE

Beautifully Renovated 2-Story Traditional Home in Quiet/Diverse Neighborhood - 2567 Cosmos Dr. - 4BR/2.5BA, Hardwood Floors, Professionally Decorated & Landscaped. Wooded, Fenced Backyard. $289,900. Agent, 404-454-6944/404-456-6496.

A One Acre, Private Contemporary Retreat with View of Lake in Chastain Park area. $429,000. Call Tom Beck at 770-804-8875.

BUCKHEAD T'HSE

Elegant Open & Bright. 3BR/2.5BA + Loft Townhome. 2-Story Living Room. Large Dining Room. Luxurious Master on Main. $299,500. Judy Price 770-238-0614.

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY OCT. 20th 2-5PM *EMORY AREA* 2183 Eldorado Dr.(Off Briarcliff). Fabulous Renovation! All Brick Ranch w/Full Finished Basement. 4BR/3BA. Paradise in Your Own Backyard. $389,900. The Kout Team/Remax 404-255-0360.

$0 Down!

No Cash to Close! No Gimmicks, No Kidding Challenged Credit O.K. Special Limited Grant Program. All Locations. 1-800-356-6156 ext: 511

HISTORIC INMAN PARK

799 LAKE AVENUE
Full high end renovation completed 2001 From foundation to roof, appliances & fixtures, all new, inside character saturated 1915 bungalow.
$479,000
404-822-5328
MLS# 1173152 FMLS# 605593

City of Decatur

Over 1,500sf, Well Maintained 2BR/1BA with Office or 3BR/1BA. Large LivingRoom & DiningRoom, Breakfast Room, Sunroom, partial Basement, Beautiful hardwoods & More. Needs Kitchen & Bath Updated. Only $239,900 or Best Offer. Call Stephanie Smith @ 770-507-6565 or Page 404-560-0052.

VA/HIGH/ M'SIDE

3-4 BR (or Bonus Room), 2 bath, renovated kitchen, LR, DR, hardwood floors, patio, Dekalb low taxes, beautiful landscaping, walking distance to Highland shops/restaurants. $349,000. 1200 University Dr. 404-872-9332. By Owner.

PRIDE REALTY FOR SALE

TERRACES AT PEACHTREE
1 Biscayne Dr. 30309
-2BR/2BA B'HEAD CONDO
MANY UPGRADES. $184,900
-1BR/1BA B'HEAD CONDO
$139,900
Pride Realty 404-352-5570.
www.PrideRealty.com

GRANT PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT - Spacious Renovated 3BR/2BA, Brick. Why Pay Rent? I Can Finance Anyone! $10,000 Below Appraisal. Great House on Quiet Street. 404-452-5656.

DECATUR

Reduced $28,000! Unbelievable 1920's Total Renovation - 5BR/3BA, Dining Room, Living Room, Library, Gourmet Kitchen, Offered at $399,000. 152 Mead Rd. - Grier Eidson, Coldwell Banker 404-847-7536.

Decatur City - Clairemont 2BR/2BA with Office. Walk to YMCA, Restaurants, Shopping. Cheaper than a Condo! Possible Owner Finance. $299,000. 770-937-5015.

DECATUR

New Price! 1930's Total Renovation! 5BR/3BA, DiningRoom, LivingRoom, Gourmet Kitchen. Historical and Clairemont Elementary District. 521 Clairemont Ave. $499,000. Grier Eidson, Coldwell Banker, 404-847-7536.

Real Estate Lease-Purchase

MANHATTAN STYLE LOFT Midtown/Poncey-Highland. 2BR/2.5BA. Copenhill by Park. Skyline View. 14' Windows. Great Space. Must See! $1750/mo. (Lease to Buy Option). Call 404-375-8565.

DECATUR CITY: 1/2 Block off Ponce, 3-Blocks to Decatur MARTA. 2BR/1BA All Brick Condo. New Paint, Tile, Carpet, Bath. $150/mo. Association Fee Includes: Cable, Water, Trash, Pest Control, Yard Maintenance, Insurance. Owner Finance $139,000. 404-373-1010 zforce@bellsouth.net (can email photos on request).

Room For Rent

FUN spaces for FUN PEOPLE. Elegant Edwardian home on Grant Park. $125/wkly. Shared utilities. No animals or inside smoking. 404-627-4794.

Roommates

VININGS

GWPM Seeks Responsible Housemate to Share Luxury, Furnished 4BR/2BA Home. Gourmet Kitchen, Garage, Utilities Included. Alarm-System. No Smoking/Pets. $795/mo. 678-450-1843.

EAST ATLANTA - B/W Couple seeks roommate to share Home, W/D, Utilities, MARTA. Blocks to Mary's, Village & I-20. $450/mo. + Deposit. 404-643-9086.

GM to Share

2BR/2BA Apt. * Sutton Place * 2-Pools, W/D, Cable, Patio, Shopping, MARTA. $400/mo. + 1/2 Util. $200 Dep./Refs Req. No Drugs. 404-633-7473, Frankie.

DECATUR GPF Seeks M/F to Share 2BR/1BA House. Includes: DSL, Cable, Own Phone & All Utilities, $600/Month. NS/ND. Dog Lover! Available Now. 678-438-3722.

LENOX Rd. - GWM Seeks to Share 2BR/2BA Apt. $400/mo. + 1/2 Utilities. $150 Deposit. Employed, Neat, Respectful. 404-798-6550.

North Buckhead - GWM seeks roommate, responsible, clean, nonsmoker, fitness-minded, 3BR/2BA home, hot tub, private patio, share bath. $450/mo. Ron 404-788-0572.

Midtown: Ansley Forest Townhouse overlooking pool. GWM seeks roommate to share 2BR/1.5BA. $500/mo. + 1/2 utilites. W/D. Call 404-815-1051.

BUCKHEAD

Hard Working GWM needs compatible roommate to share 2BR apt. Great Location/Rent. Reliability a must. Law enforcement/military a +. 404-355-2338.

BUCKHEAD/LENOX - Mature GWM in Large Luxury Home Seeks Quiet, Responsible Roommate. Includes Large Bedroom with Mattress, Bath, W/D & Utilities. $350/mo. 404-636-1793.

DECATUR. Independent, considerate GWM seeks responsible roomate for 3-level, renovated townhome. Large master bedroom w/private bath. $400/mo. includes utilities & cable. 404-284-4186.

Midtown male seeks M/F to share house. Must be mature. No drugs. $395/mo. plus 1/2 utilities. $500 deposit. 404-815-6945.

Buford Hwy/Brookhaven-GWM seeks roommate to share 3BR/2.5BA townhouse. No smoking in apartment, drugs or pets. 2 pools, W/D. Expanded cable/included. $475/mo. includes/util. H-404-633-8129/ C-404-456-6044.

DOWNTOWN VIEW - Roommate needed to share 2BR/1.5BA condo near Civic Center. Fireplace, hardwood floors, W/D, large porch. Gated community w/pool & lots of green space. $700/mo. + 1/2 utilities. No smokers or pets please. C-404-245-1374, H-404-525-3492.

Decatur/Covington Highway. Basement in-law suite w/private entrance in nice quiet neighborhood. Private kitchen, bath, large common room, W/D, & large backyard. 1.3 miles from Kensington MARTA station, 10 minutes from downtown Decatur. Looking for responsible, clean & respectful roommate. Pet negotiable. $550/month + 1/2 utilities. Call Marc 404-288-8337.

MIDTOWN - Professional GWM seeks to share, (and not the bed), 2BR/2BA Condo. $750/mo. Utilities Included. Employed, Neat, References Required. Serious Only. 404-584-6449.

L5P/Candler Park: GF Seeks Quiet, Responsible Roommate to Share 3BR/2BA House. C/H/A, Yard, MARTA, Sweet Dog. $425/mo. + 1/2 Utilities & Security Deposit. 404-522-5623, Leave Message.

NORCROSS - Nonsmoking SWF Seeking Responsible, Clean, Nonsmoking roomate to Share 2BR/2BA Apt with W/D and Fireplace. $550/mo. Available NOW. 770-300-9043.

TURNER FIELD/GRANT PARK - Athletic PGM to Share New 3BR/2.5BA. W/D, Big Deck, Fenced Yard, Close to Downtown, No smoking/drugs. $475/mo. + Util & Dep. 404-277-6883.

BUCKHEAD/MIDTOWN: PGWM, 33, Seeks Responsible N/S to Share 2BR/2BA Apt at Lindbergh Place. $570/mo. + 1/2 Util's. Available Nov 1. 404-495-0565.

NORCROSS - GWF - 51ish, Seeks Roommate for 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath, Fully Furnished, Fenced Yard, Deck, Pool. $600/mo. Utilities Included. First/Last Months Rent. Pets Welcome. References. 678-476-7764.

DULUTH - Easygoing GF Seeks Roommate to Share 3BR/2.5BA Home Close to I-85. W/D, Cable, Fireplace, Garage, $350/mo. 404-343-2372.

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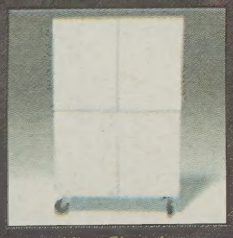

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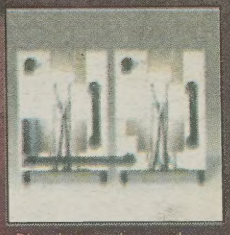

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